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Marjorie P. Howden

THE

REGISTER

OF

RICHARD FOX,

WHILE BISHOP OF BATH AND WELLS.

A.D.

MCCCCXCII—MCCCCXCIV.

EDITED BY

EDMUND CHISHOLM BATTEN, M.A., F.R.S.E.

WITH

A LIFE OF BISHOP FOX.

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Preface	I–II
Life of Bishop Richard Fox	1–142
Introduction to the Register	i
Titles of Entries in Register (Translated)	vii
Alphabetical Table of Benefices and Lay Patrons	xii
Index to Register	xv
Registrum Ricardi Fox, Bathoniensis et Wellensis Episcopi....	1–174

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PREFACE.

One only of the Mediæval Episcopal Registers of England has as yet been printed entire. This is the Palatine Register of Richard de Kellawe, Bishop of Durham, 1311–16, edited by Sir Thomas Hardy.

The original Promoters of the present work desired that one of the Mediæval Registers of the Bishops of Bath and Wells should be printed entire.

Two reasons for selecting, among those in the Wells Registry, the Register of Bishop Fox, were: first, the very interesting period to which it relates, a period quite anterior to the Reformation, and yet almost on the eve of that event; secondly, the comparative brevity of the volume, which enables the exact words of the forms used to be lastingly recorded, without oppressive repetition.

It was necessary to have an accurate transcript of the Register made for the printer, and the services of Mr. C. T. Martin were secured to make it. He had transcribed Bishop Kellawe's Register for publication. Relying on his skill and scholarship, the expanding the frequent abbreviations in the original manuscript was sanctioned, otherwise the abbreviated words would have been often unintelligible to an ordinary scholar, and would have required a translation as well as a transcript.

It would have been unusual and unbecoming to present in a permanent form the Episcopal Register of Bishop Fox and not to give an account of the Life of that Great Man.

The valuable assistance which has been readily given to the work by those most qualified to afford it, is gratefully acknowledged. Among those whom the Editor has to thank, not specially mentioned in the course of the ensuing pages, are Dr. Bloxam, Mr. Boase, Mr. H. F. Burke, Mr. T. Dickson, Mr. James Gairdner, and Mr. W. H. St. John Hope. Mr. Octavius Malet has actively promoted the production of the volume by his zealous correspondence. Mr. E. Green has given very kind service in preparing the Index. Whilst the courtesy and good will of Mr. Harris, the Episcopal Registrar at Wells, and his Clerks, must be specially mentioned; thanks cannot be too cordially expressed for the free and hearty way in which the Fox Registers of their Dioceses were laid open and illustrated by Mr. Burch, the Deputy Episcopal Registrar of Exeter, Mr. Booth, the Deputy Episcopal Registrar of Durham, and Mr. Wooldridge, the Episcopal Registrar of Winchester.

Lastly, the warm thanks of the Promoters are due to the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Lord Arthur Hervey, for his valuable and ready co-operation in the undertaking. His friendly criticism and advice has been always willingly afforded, and the whole of the sheets have had the benefit of his careful revision.

E. C. B.

Thornfalcon,
22nd May, 1889.

LIFE OF BISHOP RICHARD FOX.

THERE suddenly comes out on the page of English history, the first time, in the winter of 1484–85, the name of a personage who thenceforth maintains for forty-two years a commanding position. This was Richard Fox, a man then marked by Richard III. as a special object of Royal antipathy. Bishop Kemp had been reported to the King as intending to institute and induct "Master Richard Fox, clerk," to the vicarage of Stepney, one of the richest parochial churches in the kingdom.* On the 22nd January, 1485, Royal letters were sent to the Bishop certifying that this Richard Fox was then with the King's great rebel, Henry of Tudor, called Earl of Richmond, in counsel, favour, and aid, as much as in Fox lay, supporting the rebellious Earl against the King,† and the letters present another clerk to the vicarage.

The Bishop did not admit the King's clerk, and the sceptre was so loose in the usurper's grasp that he cared not to resent the slight; and, in fact, unknown to the King, the Bishop had already, on the 30th October, 1484, personally admitted and instituted Richard Fox in proxy to this vicarage.‡ Bishop Kemp was then seventy-nine years of age, and would hardly have exposed himself to the peril of countenancing Richmond, by instituting Fox

* Knight's Life of Colet, p. 231.

† Harl. MSS.; Stow's London, vol. ii., p. 755.

‡ This institution was not recorded in the Bishop's register until after March, 1485.

an avowed supporter of the Earl, to this very important vicarage.

Richmond, then twenty-eight years old, was, in January, 1485, with Charles VIII. (a boy of thirteen) at Montargis. The Earl in the first week of October, 1484, had made that memorable flight, riding from Vannes into France, when he passed out of the Duchy of Brittany but an hour before Landais' light horsemen, pursuing him, were stopped by the land-mark of the Marches of Brittany and France. Such influence had been brought to bear upon Anne de Beaujeu, the King's sister and guardian, and the French Privy Council, that on the 11th October, 1484, at Montargis, the Governor of Limousin (present as a member of the Council) was ordered by the Council to go to meet the Earl of Richmond, who had set out from Brittany for France, and to welcome, receive, and lodge him in the towns through which he should pass, and 2,000 francs were placed at the disposal of the Governor to deal with as he thought fit. By the 23rd October, the Governor of Limousin was again with the Council at Montargis, so that he must have met the Earl; and on the 4th November, the followers of Richmond, to the number of 400, were directed to be lodged and entertained at Sens, arrangements being made shortly afterwards for the Earl himself keeping Christmas at the Court.*

It does not appear that Richmond had ever been in France before his flight thither from Vannes. Philip de Commines was a member of the Privy Council that welcomed him at Montargis; Commines says that the Earl of Richmond told him, a short time before his departure from France, that since the age of five years he had been always guarded and confined as a fugitive in prison.

* We fortunately have the exact particulars of the hospitality and encouragement given by Anne de Beaujeu to Henry VII., from the Minutes of the Sittings of the Privy Council, but they end with the sitting at Montargis on the 12th January, 1485. Séances du Conseil de Régence du Roi Charles VIII. Paris, 1836.

This was the Earl's position in Brittany from his reception there with his uncle Jasper Tudor, Duke of Bedford, after the battle of Tewkesbury, until his embarkation on the voyage to join Buckingham on 12th October, 1483, from which he returned to Brittany by the 30th of the same month. Nothing indicates that down to the time of Richmond's entering France in October, 1484, Fox had any connection with him. The letters of Richard prove that in January, 1485, Fox was with Richmond. The Bishop said on oath in April, 1527, that it was then forty-one years since he knew Henry VII.; this would exclude the probability that he ever saw the King when Earl of Richmond, until Richmond had joined the Court of Charles at Montargis. There, probably, or at Sens, or Paris, the Earl first met Fox.

And now before describing his career from his thirty-seventh year, which is marked by the warmest admiration of his contemporaries and the unanimous applause of posterity, which left no duty unperformed, no honour unbestowed, it would be interesting to be able to tell of Fox's early time, how he was educated, and where he passed nearly the first half of his life. This period is singularly obscure. The tradition which tells of his education at Boston School, at Magdalen College, Oxford, and Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, may be true, but it is not supported by contemporary evidence. The books and proctor's accounts of Magdalen College, Oxford, and Pembroke College, Cambridge, give no indication that he was ever a student at one college or the other.* There is no entry in the University registers of his being

* It is a question whether he was ever a student at Pembroke Hall, for in the letter which the Fellows sent to Bishop Layburn, upon Layburn's election as Master in 1505, they tell him there was not a man in England bred in the College besides himself that was worthy of that place. Wren's Masters of Pembroke Hall, Leland's Coll., vol. v, p. 389. Fox, in 1502, gave Pembroke Hall £50 for two priests to pray for the soul of John Dawson, Dean of Sarum, and the prosperity of him, Richard Fox, Bishop of Winchester. *Idem.*

admitted to any degree at Oxford or Cambridge, but these books, proctors' accounts, and registers are very imperfect. He is called Bachelor in Laws in the Bishop of London's registry of his admission to the vicarage of Stepney, in October, 1484, and in his admission to the prebend of Brownswood, in October, 1485. This may mean that he was Bachelor of both Laws or of Canon Law only.* He is styled, when Bishop of Exeter, by his contemporary Rouse, Doctor of Decrees, but in his admission to the prebend of South Grantham, in February, 1486, and his appointment to the Privy Seal, he is styled Doctor of Laws, so that his proceeding to the doctorate must have been between these two dates. Parker's Skeletos styles him, in the account of Pembroke Hall, Socius LL.D. Parisiis, but no degree in Civil Law was then allowed at Paris, and if he was made Doctor in the Faculty of Law in Paris, it must have been only Doctor of the Canon Law or Decrees.

There is no allusion in Fox's after life, by himself or others, to anything connected with his education or his earlier years. When some reference to any previous connection with the Universities of Oxford or Cambridge may be expected, there is none. The University of Oxford write to him, when Bishop of Exeter, for a donation to rebuild St. Mary's Tower, but they make no allusion to his having had any connection with their University; when Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, request him in 1507 to be their new Master, they do not ask the favour on the ground of his having been an alumnus there. Much as he was, when Bishop of Winchester and Visitor of Magdalen College, mixed up with that house, the college never appear to have reminded him that he was a student within its walls. He may have been at a grammar school at Boston, but the Corpus Christi Guild there, of which he became a member in 1492 whilst Bishop of Bath and Wells,† had

* Boase's Register of Univ. of Oxford, vol. i, p. xxvii. † Harl. MSS., 4795.

no school attached to it, and in the same year other courtiers were admitted to membership.

A graduate he undoubtedly was of a university, and probably of Paris, and there may yet be among the registers of that university proof of his having taken his degrees there.

Bishop Fox was the son of Thomas Fox and Elinor, his wife. These names his filial piety hands down in his foundation statutes, directing that they should have the prayers of his college.

Thomas Fox lived at a house called Pullock and sometimes Pullocks Manor in Ropsley Co. Lincoln. "To this manor house did anciently belong," says Twyne in his MS. Collectanea, "land worth beyond all reprises £26 yearly," that is more than £300 a year of our money. According to the estimate of Mr. Froude, which generally we shall adopt, that money then was relatively to money now as one to twelve.

Thomas Fox was a person of position above a yeoman, though perhaps not entitled to wear coat armour. His only sister, Elizabeth Fox, married John Bronneswell, and from this marriage many illustrious families are descended. The name of Fox as a landowner in Ropesley goes back to the time of Edward III., and the sisters of Bishop Fox married into the good families of Colston and Joyner before he himself was a distinguished man.

In Pullocks Manor Bishop Fox was born in 1448, and the room in which he first saw light has been pointed out by an unvarying tradition down to the present day. John Fox, described as of Ropesley, receives from Sir Christopher Barker, Garter, (28 Henry VIII.) a grant of arms,* in which the pelican is introduced amongst the charges on a chief, but the charges on the field are lions' heads. He occupied most probably the house where the Bishop was born, and which the reverent piety of the

* MSS. Herald's Coll.

college of his foundation has purchased. Small and mean as that house may now appear, it was, it would seem, the residence of a gentleman entitled to bear arms in 1536. Fox is said by Greenway, the President of Corpus Christi in 1566, to have been educated in grammar-learning at Boston, and in academical-learning at Magdalen College, Oxford, and to have removed from Magdalen to Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, in consequence of the plague breaking out at Oxford, and then to have gone to Paris to study Canon Law.

Fox, although not in October 1484, an avowed partisan of Richmond, may have been in the earlier part of 1484 in communication with Bishop Morton or Christopher Urswicke, Morton's agent, and it may have been that Fox was then in England previous to being presented to the vicarage of Stepney; and this earlier part of that year may have been the period of his traditional visit to Ropesley, alluded to in Queen Elizabeth's time, by the old inhabitants who then reported him to have returned there from France in good sort, and refused to stay with his parents saying he must over sea again, and if one thing hit out right, all Ropesley should not serve him for a kitchen. This one thing may have been the renewed invasion of England by Richmond.

Probably from January, 1485, Fox acted as Secretary to Richmond. To him, as Secretary, we may attribute the style of the letter of the Earl to his friends in England, which was issued from Paris in the spring of 1485, when Richmond uses the forms, if not the signature of a King.*

Richmond embarked at Harfleur on the 1st of August, 1485, and arrived at Milford Haven on the seventh day after. Fox and Christopher Urswicke were with the expedition, and these two

* Halliwell's Royal Letters I. 261, from Harl. MSS., 787, p. 2. It is given under the signet and signed H.R. The signet was always in the keeping of the King's secretary.

clergymen were by his side, when immediately on landing the Earl knelt down and began the Psalm "Judica me Deus et decerne causam meam;" then kissed the ground and signed himself with the Cross. Richmond when in Wales issued a letter to his friends, and in this second letter Fox sustains the position he had taken in the letter from Paris. He makes the Earl assume the Royal style, and even with greater ostentation, for the letter is not only given "under our Signet," but headed "by the King."

Henry had been proclaimed King at Exeter on the 18th October, 1483. Fox must have maintained that Henry was King before the battle of Bosworth. This was the line taken by Henry and his advisers after Bosworth, confirmed by Parliament, and continually kept up by making the first day of his reign, the 21st August, 1485, the day before the battle. When that battle was over, Henry knelt down and thanked God. He was proclaimed and crowned King on the field, Urswicke was there, but of the ecclesiastics who lifted up their voices in prayer after the victory, Fox, the Secretary, was chief.*

The House of York was most popular in the county and city of York, where Richard had been recrowned. Not a moment was to be lost in securing the city, for Stillington, Bishop of Bath and Wells, the bitter enemy of Henry, the crafty plotter who had been sent by Edward IV. to St. Malo to secure the delivery of Henry to Edward, was there.

At Leicester, the twenty-third, the day after the battle, Fox, as secretary, drew up a Royal Warrant signed FOX for the arrest of Stillington, "one of the adherents and assistants to our great enemy Richard, late Duke of Gloucester."

It is remarkable that the first document which is extant, to which is attached Fox's counter-signature as Principal Secretary,

* Bernard André, Vita Henry VII., in Rolls Pub., p. 33.

should be the warrant for the arrest of Stillington, his immediate predecessor in the bishopric of Bath and Wells.

On the 24th August, Sir Roger Cotton, Knight to Henry, arrived in York to proclaim him as King, and on the next day Windsor Herald and Robert Borow, a Sergeant to the King, arrived there with a Proclamation which was issued the same day, and must have been drawn up by Fox as the King's Secretary.

This Proclamation clearly shows that the fierce time of proscription was passed, and that the King, and Fox his Chief Councillor, had determined to discourage any punishment of those who had supported Richard, usurper though he were.

It commences thus :—

"Henry, by the Grace of God, King of England and of France, Prince of Wales, and Lord of Ireland, strictly chargeth and commandeth, upon pain of death, that no manner of man rob or spoil no manner of commons coming from the field, but suffer them to pass leave to their countries and dwelling-places, with their horses and harness. And, moreover, that no manner of man take upon to go to no gentleman's place neither in the country, nor within cities nor boroughs, nor pick no quarrels for old or for new matters, but keep the King's peace upon pain of hanging, &c."*

The Secretary to the new King was of course at once presented to such offices as it was in the power of the King or his friends to

* The King followed up this course by ascertaining the losses of corn and grain sustained by the townships of Aterston (£20), Widerby (£13), Aterton (£8 10*s.*), Long Drayton (£20), Manseter (£5 19*s.*), Atherston (£4 13*s.* 4*d.*), and which were occasioned by the King and his company at his late victorious field, and directing on 29th November these sums to be paid, and also on the 7th December directing 100 marks to be paid to the Abbot of Merivale as recompense "who had and sustained right great hurts, changes, and losses, by occasion of the great repayre and resort that oure people coming toward our late field made as well unto the House of Merivale aforesaide as in going over his ground to the destruction of his corn and pastures." R. P. Materials Hist. Hen. VII., vol. i, 188 and 201. Drake. Ebor. 112.

give. The King gave him on the 28th September the Keepership of the Little Park at Windsor, and on the 10th of November the Keepership of the Exchange at Calais, which had been held by John Kendal, Richard III.'s Secretary. Fox, being in holy orders, was enabled to receive those sinecures attached to cathedral churches, which afforded so frequently provision for clergymen engaged in other than ecclesiastical duties. He was appointed by Bishop Langton of Salisbury to the Prebend of Bishopston in that church, and by Bishop Kemp on the 26th of October, 1485, to the prebend of Brownswood, in the Church of St. Paul's, vacant by the death of John Davyson or Dawson, Dean of Salisbury; and in February, 1486, he was appointed (having resigned the Prebend of Bishopston shortly before) to the prebend of South Grantham, in the Church of Salisbury.

The King went from Leicester to London by short stages, and rested at Coventry. He arrived in London early in September, and before the seventeenth of that month Fox had resigned the good vicarage of Stepney, which was subject to the obligation of continual and personal residence.

The victorious field of Bosworth had secured peace at home. Fox always urged on the King, and Morton who joined them in London in September concurred in advising, the cultivation of peace. Before September was out, a truce was made with the King of France for a year, and letters of safe conduct were sent two days afterwards to Ambassadors from Scotland, to confirm the truce with that kingdom for three years made by Richard III. at Nottingham in September, 1484.

The Coronation of the King in October, before waiting for his marriage, was a continuous assertion of his own right to the Crown; the holding a Parliament in November, and the obtaining a confirmatory Bull from the Pope, were fit antecedents to the

marriage of Henry and the heiress of Edward IV. in January 1486, which completed the links which fastened the royal diadem of England on the head of the first of the Tudors.

No sooner was the Parliament dissolved than the King availed himself of the services of his Secretary Fox in drawing up the noble expressions of gratitude and thankfulness which are in the Letters Patent creating Sir Giles Daubeny, who came to him in Brittany and fought at his side at Bosworth, a peer of the realm.

Fox was a Privy Councillor by the 10th November.* Henry, either from his regard for Fox, or from his desire to elevate the dignity of the office, raised the position of the King's Principal Secretary; Fox was the first who was advanced to the rank of a Privy Councillor.

In the spring of 1486, boldly and wisely, the King went north as far as York, and west as far as Bristol,† Fox was with him as Secretary. The King returned to London in June, and as the Herald‡ says, "soon after July, 1486, the King departed from Westminster towards the western parts, and hunted in the New Forest and went to Winchester, where Arthur, Prince of Wales, was born in the Priory of St. Swithin on the 20th September. 1486. Fox as the King's Secretary accompanied the King throughout these journeys, and to Winchester. At the splendid christening of the Prince in the Cathedral at Winchester, the Herald speaks

* Hall, fol. 3.

† In April, 1486, the King kept, says the Herald, at Lincoln right devoutly the Holy Feast of Easter, and like a Christian Prince had his divine service in the Cathedral Church and in no privy chapel. On Shere (Maundy) Thursday he had in the Bishop's Hall twenty-nine poor men to whom he humbly and cristenly, for Christ's love, with his noble hands did wash their feet. He was just twenty-nine years old, and was met in his progress northward with crowds coming out of the cities, men, women, and children crying "King Henry, King Henry," and saying "Our Lorde preserve that sweet and well-favoured face."

‡ Leland's Coll., Ed. 2, vol. iv., p. 203.

of "many noble doctors in rich copes and grey amys. Master Robert Morton, Master of the Rolls, the Dean of Wells Master John Gunthorpe, Doctor Fox, the King's Secretary,* with many more."†

On the 11th August, 1486, William of Waynflete, Bishop of Winchester, died. On the 15th the Chapter of the Cathedral solicited the King's permission to elect a Bishop in the room of Waynflete. Peter, or Piers Courtenay, Bishop of Exeter and Lord Privy Seal, was elected and approved of by the Pope in January and the King in February. Bishop Courtenay, on the 24th February, 1487, resigned the Privy Seal, which the King gave on that day to his Secretary Fox, so that Fox held at the same time the King's Signet as Secretary, and the Privy Seal as Lord Privy Seal.

This office of Lord Privy Seal, like that of Secretary, was much dignified by Henry VII. King Richard had appointed Gunthorpe, Dean of Wells, to the office; the selection of a man so little raised above ordinary Churchmen was due in Richard's case to the King's practice of acting on his own opinion and without Council or Minister, and to the estrangement which his usurpation and murder of the Princes, had produced in the public opinion of the day, but Edward IV. had no higher personages than commoners for Lords Privy Seal.

Courtenay was a member of one of the great ruling families of England. His appointment gave the office eminence and rank, and we may trace in King Henry's elevation of those in the immediate service of the Crown, the wise counsel of the King's mother, who well knew how to maintain dignity and state.‡

* Henry says of Oliver King, Fox's successor, "As Sir Oliver King, our Secretary, is always in attendance on our person, he cannot, in his person, visit certain parish churches situated in his Archdeaconry of Taunton." R. P. Venetian, vol. i, pp. 194 and 1110.

† Leland, Ed. 2, vol. iv, p. 205. ‡ Materials for Hist. Henry VII., *passim*.

On the 1st March, 1487, Fox executed a deed as Bishop of Exeter at the Bishop's house outside Temple Bar, and appointed his beloved Christopher Urswicke to a prebend. Fox must have been elected Bishop of Exeter by the Chapter of the Cathedral Church before this date; this election must have been confirmed by the Pope, and his oath of allegiance accepted by the King before the 25th of March, 1487, as on that day a writ for the restitution of the temporalities of Exeter to Fox as Bishop of Exeter, was issued, dated at the Monastery of Chertsey; on the 2nd of April another writ for the restitution of the temporalities of Winchester to Courtenay as Bishop of Winchester was issued.

This latter writ was dated at Colchester, from which place the King passed to Bury St. Edmunds, and there issued his commissions of array for Suffolk, Norfolk, and Essex, to meet the apprehended invasion of the Earl of Lincoln and Lambert Simnel.

Fox, notwithstanding his election as Bishop of Exeter and his appointment as Lord Privy Seal, is addressed as Secretary as well as Bishop by the Mayor of York on the 31st of March, being then also unconsecrated.

The Mayor sending to Bishop Fox the confession of a man who had seen Lord Lincoln at York, on the King's visit there the previous year, addresses the letter: "To the Right Reverend Fader in God, and my right especial singler good Lord, The Bishop of Exeter, the King's Secretary," and proceeds as follows:—

"Right Reverend Fader in God, and my right especial and singler good Lord, I commend me unto you with hearty thankes for [what] your goode Lordship showed unto this poor Citie, most especially at such times as Master John Harington hath been with you in matters of the same for the which we have bounde us to your continual service," &c., and begs him to lay the papers before the King.*

* Archæological Institute Proceedings, at York, p. 6.

The King, with Fox, Morton, and Courtenay in attendance on him, arrived at Norwich on the 4th April. On the 8th of April Fox was consecrated Bishop. The consecration took place at Norwich, the Sub-Prior and Convent of the Cathedral Church of Canterbury having consented to the consecration of Richard Fox, Doctor of Laws, Elect of the Church of Exeter, out of the Cathedral of Christchurch Canterbury. This consent, and Fox's oath of obedience to Morton as Archbishop of Canterbury, are entered in the Archbishop's Register.* Morton officiated, assisted by Courtenay, and James, the Bishop of Norwich.†

Thus the appointment of Richard Fox to be Bishop of Exeter was complete.

* The Chapter of the Cathedral Church of Canterbury were entitled to insist on on all Bishops of that province being consecrated there. Reg. Morton, Lambeth Palace Library.

† Stubbs' Regist. Sacrum, p. 72.

BISHOP OF EXETER.

THE bishopric of Exeter was founded by the Confessor. It comprised the counties of Devon and Cornwall, and down to the time when Fox was elevated to the See was counted one of the best in England. The Bishop had the patronage of twenty-four prebendaries who were secular priests, and the estates belonging to his bishopric were valued, in 1534, at £1,566 14*s.* 6*d.* per annum, equivalent to £18,800 of our money.

The Bishops are said to have had fourteen houses belonging to the See at this time. Besides the Palace at Exeter, Mr. Lysons says we know of Cargol and Caddenback in Cornwall; Crediton Park, Bishop's Clist, Paignton, Bishop's Nympton, Bishop's Tawton, Chudleigh, Bishop's Morchard, in Devonshire.* There were also the Bishop's Palace, in London, and his Manor House of East Horsley, in Surrey. The London house of the Bishop of Exeter, called Exeter House, was one of those pleasant mansions with gardens reaching to the River Thames, which formed its border from the city walls to Westminster, of which the last surviving to our time was Northumberland House. Its gardens adjoined the gardens of the Middle Temple, and included the present Essex Street.

Bishop Fox was so engrossed by his duties as Lord Privy Seal and as principal adviser to the King that he did not visit Exeter. He must have been enthroned by proxy, and he was obliged to adopt the usual practice of absentee Bishops. Dr. William Sylke, Canon of Exeter, was appointed Official Principal and Vicar-General in Spirituals for the diocese by a commission from the

* Lysons' Mag. Brit., Devon, p. 203.

Bishop, dated at Kenilworth the 30th May, 1487.* The Vicar-General was empowered to do everything for him except those duties which a consecrated Bishop alone could perform. And on the 3rd June, 1487, the Bishop grants a commission as Suffragan Bishop to Thomas Cornish, Bishop of Tenos. This Suffragan Bishop seems to have officiated in place of the Bishop of the See when the functions of an ecclesiastic of the episcopal order were to be exercised during Fox's episcopate.

On Bishop Fox being fully invested with the bishopric of Exeter, his ecclesiastical sinecures of the prebends of Brownswood and South Grantham would become vacant. Probably at the request of Bishop Kemp, so as to hasten for him the patronage of Brownswood, Fox resigned the prebend before his appointment as Bishop.† He also resigned his reversionary interest in the office of Prothonotary in Chancery.‡

The mode of performing the duties of the Bishop of a See by the double organisation of a Vicar-General in Spirituals and a Suffragan Bishop was so familiar to the episcopal statesmen of that age, that Fox would have startled the ecclesiastical mind more by refusing than by accepting the bishopric whilst Lord Privy Seal, and thus executing the episcopal office. We shall see by and by how he afterwards regarded this practice.

The possession of the bishopric assured him of independence and patronage; nor was the dignified London residence of the see without considerable attraction to a statesman, and his position as Prelate gratified the King by enabling his councillor to minister before him in the most sacred offices of the Church.

* Reg. Fox Exon. Fox says in this deed that because his seal was not at hand, he had procured the seal of John Bishop of Ely to be appended to it.

† Reg. Kemp, Lond., p. 148. The collation of the new prebendary was dated 11th April, 1487.

‡ Materials for Hist. Henry VII., R.P., vol. ii, p. 358.

The King kept his Easter at the Bishop's Palace, Norwich, Morton and Fox being with him. "On St. George's Day," says the Herald, "the King went to Coventry to be in the centre of his kingdom, until he had certain advice of the designs of his enemies; and there he kept his Feast of St. George. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of Winchester, Ely, London, Worcester, Fox as Bishop of Exeter, and the Prior of Coventry, all *in pontificalibus*,* read the Pope's Bull† touching the King and Queen's rights, and there in the choir, in the Bishop's seat, by the authority of the same Bull, cursed with book, bell, and candle, all those who did anything contrary to the King and Queen's rights, and approved their titles good."

On leaving Coventry, the King rode to Kenilworth to the Queen and the Lady Margaret the King's mother, who were staying at that splendid monument of the grandeur of John of Gaunt and the great House of Lancaster. Here Fox was in attendance on the King.‡

The excellent orders for the conduct of the army, excluding from the host all vagabonds, all bad women, all pillagers, and denouncing all quarrel with any man for any offence against the King without His Majesty's special command, which show how much the horrors of civil war might be tempered, were issued, says the Herald, "by the advice of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of Winchester, and Fox the Bishop of Exeter."§ The spirit in which they are framed accords so entirely with the

* The words "in pontificalibus" are expressed in English by the phrase "under stole" in the record of this proceeding in the Records of the city of York. Proceedings of Archæological Institute, at York, 1846.

† Of March 27th, 1486, confirming the dispensation of the marriage of the King and Queen, and excommunicating rebels. Rymer xii, 297.

‡ Bishop Fox's Register, Exeter, May 30, 1487.

§ Leland's Collectanea, by Hearne, Ed. 1774, vol. iv, p. 211.

Proclamation of Leicester after Bosworth, that we may attribute the orders mainly to Bishop Fox, who alone of the three Prelates named was at Bosworth.

On the morning of the 16th June (Saturday), when the battle of Stoke was fought, the King early rose and heard two masses, "whereof," says the Herald, "the Lord Fox, Bishop of Exeter, sang the ton." That same day there is a letter from the King to the Mayor of York, which must have been one of the last letters drafted by Fox as Secretary, and is as follows:—

"By the King.

"To our trusty and well-beloved the Mayor of our city of York.

"Trusty and well-beloved, we greet you well, and forasmuch as it hath liked our Blessed Saviour to grant unto us of His benign grace the triumph and victory of our Rebels without death of any noble or gentleman on our part, we therefore desire and pray you, and since this victory proceedeth of Him and concerneth not only the weal and honour of us, but also of this our Royaume, no less charge you, that calling unto you in the most solemn church of our city there, your brethren, the Aldermen, and others, ye do lovings and praisings to be given to our said Saviour after the best of your power.

"Given under our Signet, at our town of Newark, xvi day of June."*

On the 24th June, the King was again at Lincoln, and comes back to Kenilworth,† where, on 4th July, he issued a patent giving Richard Fox, Doctor of Laws, a King's Councillor, and Bishop of Exeter, and now Keeper of the Privy Seal, 20 shillings a day as

* Archæolog. Inst. Proceedings, at York, p. 6, altered into modern English.

† A letter to Pope Innocent of Henry was dated at Kenilworth, 5th July, 1487. Mat. Hist., Henry VII., vol. ii, p. 158.

salary of the said office.* Probably at this time he gave up the Signet of the Secretary's office to the King, who conferred it upon Oliver King, Archdeacon of Taunton, before the 11th August, 1487.

On the 18th of August,† the King reached Newcastle by York and Durham. The rebellion being over, the Pope issued a Bull on the 6th August, 1487, empowering the Archbishop of Canterbury to absolve the rebels from the effect of the excommunication pronounced by him and Fox and their brethren at Coventry, and about the same time the King issued general pardons, with restitution of lands, to many of the rebels.

But one repeated offender was to be restrained from mischief. Bishop Stillington, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, who, pardoned by the clemency of the King in November, 1485, after his capture under Fox's writ at York, had favoured the rebellion of Lord Lincoln, and fled to Oxford after the battle of Stoke. From Oxford, despite his claimed privilege as head of a house, he was before 12th September sent in custody to Windsor, and there remained in ward notwithstanding special exertions of the Dean and Chapter of Wells, and their commission to the King in his favour.

Bishop Fox, in the Parliament which met in November, 1487, returning from Scotland, is made a Trier of Petitions, and is in London on the 10th of that month. From Newcastle, the King sent Bishop Fox and Sir Richard Edgcombe, Comptroller of the Household, as Ambassadors to James III. of Scotland, to effect a permanent peace between the two kingdoms.

* This was one of the four highest offices of the State, the other three being the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Treasurer, and the Lord President of the Council, and the salary, at Mr. Froude's relative estimate of twelve to one, was more than four thousand a year of our money. With the Bishopric, Fox had now an income of more than twenty-three thousand a year of our money.

† Mat., Henry VII., II., 163.

Bishop Fox took so important a part in the arrangements with Scotland, which led ultimately to the union of the Crowns of England and Scotland, that it is worth while to attend carefully to the progress of these negotiations.

The relations of England to Scotland were naturally an object of great anxiety with Henry and his Councillors, next after the relations of England to France. The safe conduct of September, 1485, to Scotch Ambassadors, which we have mentioned, was renewed on the 2nd February, 1486, but the Scotch Ambassadors did not come to London till May, 1486.* The result was a truce for three years from 3rd July, 1486, and the Articles, dated that day, provided that on the 8th March following Commissioners and Orators should be sent by the King of England to the King of Scotland at Edinburgh, to discuss a proposition of a marriage between the Marquis of Ormond, the second son (born in March, 1476) of the King of Scotland, and the Princess Katharine, the third daughter of Edward IV., the sister of Elisabeth, Henry's Queen. The Queen of Scotland died on the 14th of the same month of July. Until the battle of Stoke on the 16th June, 1487, the King was too much engaged in dealing with Lord Lincoln and his followers to attend to matrimonial negotiations with Scotland, but as he was near Scotland at Newcastle, sent on Bishop Fox and Sir Richard Edgcombe to Edinburgh, to meet Commissioners of James III. there. Fox was back by the 23rd September, on which day he was at Cambridge.† He probably was with the King and Court at Warwick in September.‡ A document, dated 28th

* The entries in Rymer are wrongly put in 1487. They were entertained in a sumptuous manner in London for seven weeks from July 7th; £234 were spent in their reception, and bows and arrows were given them for their hunting in Eltham Park.

† Fox Reg. Exon.

‡ Rymer, vol. xii, p. 328.

November, shows that Bishop Fox and Sir Richard Edgcombe* had met either in Edinburgh or elsewhere in the north, the Bishop of Aberdeen and Lord Bothwell on the part of James, and had discussed not only the marriage of the second son of the King of Scotland with the Princess Katharine, but also the marriage of the now widowed Scotch King himself with the Queen Dowager of Edward IV., and of the Prince of Scotland with such other of the English Queen's sisters as both the Kings should choose, and had arranged a meeting of the Kings in July, 1488. Thus the subject of the connection of the two reigning houses of the two kingdoms by marriage was fairly brought before the King and Bishop Fox, and we shall see what progress was hereafter made in the matter.

Bishop Fox is not named as present at the Queen's Coronation on the 25th November, 1487, although his colleague, Sir Richard Edgcombe, appears. Fox perhaps was with the King on this occasion, who with his mother witnessed the ceremony from a latticed seat in the Abbey.† Fox did the Divine Service at evensong before the King on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day, 1487.†

"At Whitsuntide," says the Herald, "the Reverend Father in God, the Bishop of Exeter, Lord Privy Seal, did the Divine Service at Windsor." Windsor soon came with the Prebend of Exeter Cathedral to Christopher Urswicke, his companion on the voyage from Harfleur and on the field of Bosworth, now the King's Almoner and a considerable pluralist.‡

"After Whitsuntide," says the Chronicler, "all the summer

* Knighted after the Battle of Bosworth Field on the field. Book of Knights, p. 2.

† Leland's Coll., vol. iv, p. 224.

‡ A King so devoted to religious ceremonies as Henry VII. was sure to encourage his clerical Ministers of State to officiate in them, and the Lord Privy Seal acted as Chaplain as well as Councillor on many occasions in 1488.

following, His Grace hunted and sported himself merely, and slew his gresse in the Park of Woodstock and in the Forest of Whichwood."

In March, 1488, Arthur, Prince of Wales, being then not two years old, Henry and Ferdinand and Isabella began a Treaty for the marriage between the Prince and Katharine, the Princess of Arragon. Fox and Lord Daubeny were the King of England's Commissioners. The Treaty with Spain was made by them the same year. Fox was deeply engaged in the foreign diplomacy of the King. Lady Margaret, in that same month of March, 1488, writes to Fox when the question of who should be the husband of Anne, the heiress of Brittany, was mooted: "My Lord, I pray you I may hear of your news of Flanders," and so much confidence is shown in Fox that the Treaty expressly reserves a disputed question of fact to be decided by the word of honour and oath of the Bishop of Exeter, Lord Privy Seal.

In November, 1488, Fox writes to the Pope to say that Adrian de Corneto, appointed Nuncio to Scotland,* had been well received in England, and that he (Fox) had shown him all good will and affection. He signs himself, "Ricardus Exonien. presbyter."†

In January, 1489, the Pope's Collector, John de Giglis, writes to Pope Innocent VIII. that he had obtained audience of the King. "The Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Exeter (Fox) who are all-powerful with the King, stood by and favoured us."‡ The King kept his Easter at Hertford, where at that season (April 19), says the Herald Chronicler, "the Reverend Father in God the Lord Richard Fox did the Divine Service, and on St. George's Day the morn he sang the Mass of Requiem."

* Preface to Stat. Eccl. Scot., p. 109, note, Bannatyne Club, 1866.

† We have other instances of bishops signing themselves "priest."

‡ R. P. Venetian, vol. i, p. 177.

James III. of Scotland was murdered on the 11th of June, 1488, so that the meeting of the Kings of England and Scotland, arranged by Fox for July, 1488, could not happen. Fox was at Windsor in September, 1488, and kindly assisted Bishop Stillington, still Bishop of Bath and Wells, and in gentle confinement at Windsor, with his seal and attestation in executing a deed, which the Dean and Chapter of Wells wished their diocesan to grant. For some reason it was important that the circumstances under which this deed was executed should be testified to the Chapter. So it was sent to Wells by Edmund Myll, a faithful servant of Bishop Fox, with a letter of credence.*

At All Hallow-tide, November 1, 1488, at Windsor, the Bishop again did Divine Service. Christmas Day, 1488, the King kept at Shene, and Fox did the Divine Service both Christmas Day and Twelfth Day.

The subsidy granted by the last Parliament was being levied in Yorkshire, when suddenly, on St. Vitalis Day, the 28th of April, 1489, was slain the Earl of Northumberland, the Collector of the Subsidy, beside Thirsk, tidings hereof being brought to the King at Hertford; and the Chronicler tells us that His Majesty soon answered the Ambassadors of the King of the Romans, the King of Portugal, and the King of Naples, who were in attendance on him, and on the 22nd day of May departed from Hertford towards the north, and lay that night at Dunstable, accompanied by the Bishop of Exeter, Privy Seal. The King was at York from 29th May to 4th June, 1489, comes back to Leicester and Windsor by June, and grants general pardons to the malcontents.

Upon All Hallows even, 1489, the Queen took her chamber at

* Reynolds' "Wells Statutes," App. M, 179. Myll if not then married to Anne, Bishop Fox's niece, was so married by the month of April, 1492, there is then a grant by the Bishop to Edmund Myll and Anne, his wife, of some land, for their joint lives and the life of the longer liver of them.

Westminster, expecting the birth of Margaret, afterwards Queen of Scotland. The Chronicler says: "My Lord, the Queen's Chamberlain, in very good wordes desired in the Queen's name, the people there present to pray God to send her the goode time. The Reverend Fader in God the Bishop of Excester sung the Mass in Pontificalibus, and after Agnus Dei." The Princess was born on the 29th November. Fox again on Christmas Day, 1489, did the Divine Service at Greenwich. "On Candlemas Day, 1490, into Westminster Hall came King and Queen, the Bishop of Exeter, Privy Seal, who did the Divine Service in Pontificalibus." Soon after,* the King sent an Embassy into France, consisting of Fox, the Earl of Ormond the Queen's Chamberlain, and William Sellyng the Prior of Christ Church of Canterbury.

The object of the Embassy was to treat with Charles, King of France, concerning his differences with the Duchess of Brittany, and for a perpetual peace with him, and it went to France before 12th March, and was there at Easter time, 1490, so that Sellyng could not keep Easter at Canterbury.†

Meantime the Bishop had exercised his patronage, as we shall find he often did, in bestowing offices on men who afterwards were of service to him and to the Church. On the 9th of May, 1489, he collates Richard Nykke, Doctor of Laws (in 1503 Bishop of Norwich) to the prebend in the church of Crantock, and made him afterwards Archdeacon of Exeter; and gave Bishop Cornish the Wardenship of the College of Ottery St. Mary. He gave Dean Arundel the prebend of Crediton.

In the autumn Bishop Fox is at Woking with the King, and on the 26th September, 1490, witnessed a Treaty between the King and Ferdinand and Isabella for the marriage of Prince Arthur with Katharine of Arragon.

* 27th February, 1490, Rymer. † Hist., MSS., vol. ix, p. 118.

Bishop Fox had before October, 1490, taken up his residence at the Manor of Horsley, and on the 11th of October dates a collation at "our Manor of Horsley, in the diocese of Winchester," very convenient to the King's house at Woking. On the 8th of the same month, Bishop Fox and his colleague received further powers of treaty with the King of France, whose council was most expert at delay and dissimulation.

East Horsley was a manor house belonging to the Bishops of Exeter, and at which they sometimes resided. The bishopric was so valuable a possession that it afforded a Prelate, whom duty or inclination induced to live in London, this agreeable country-house, with its easy rising and billowy downs sloping up to the heights above the vales of Guildford and Dorking,* by way of change.

In 1491, on February 17th, the Bishop and his colleague have further power to treat with France,† a power which is extended on the 26th February to enable them to treat with the Duchess of Brittany also. In April, 1491, the Duchess was married by proxy to Maximilian, the King of the Romans.

The King receives the Breton Ambassadors in June, 1491. Fox is then in London at Exeter House. The King in July directs a benevolence to meet the expected subsidy (to be voted him by Parliament for a war in France) which the Parliament, meeting on 17th October, 1491, voted.

Charles attacks the Duchess' capital city of Vannes, and on the 6th of December, 1491, marries the Duchess at Langeais on the Loire,‡ and she is crowned at St. Denis. Bishop Fox's labours as

* Bishop Booth died, and was buried there in April, 1478. Leland tells us that Lacy, Bishop of Exeter, in Henry V. and VI. dayes, lay sometimes at this house. Its site is very near Lord Lovelace's house.

† In February, 1491, Henry VIII. was baptized by Bishop Fox (as he himself declared in 1527) in the Church of the Observants, Greenwich.

‡ "Arma gerunt alii, tu, felix Austria, nubes."

Ambassador on her behalf to Charles would now seem likely to end.

In May, 1491, Stillington, Bishop of Bath and Wells, died at Windsor, where he had been detained under arrest from September, 1487. Nothing is done to fill up the vacant bishopric until, on the 6th February, 1492, the Pope issues a Bull for the translation of Bishop Fox from Exeter to Bath and Wells; and the King on the 8th March, 1492, directs the Dean and Chapter of Wells, and the Prior and Chapter of Bath, to elect Bishop Fox to the vacant See. He is elected, and obtains a restitution of the temporalities on the 4th May, 1492, and by the 10th of May, 1492, he had taken possession of the London house of the Bishops of Bath and Wells, which was situated on the Thames just outside Temple Bar, next to the house of the Bishop of Exeter, and there issued the first instrument recorded in his episcopal register.

The connection which had been proposed by the King and carried out by Fox between the Royal Houses of Spain and England, made the conquest of Granada of more interest to the King than the lively concern he felt for the maintenance of Christendom would alone have roused; the Chronicler tells us that after the Te Deum, solemnly sung in St. Paul's Cathedral, the Archbishop of Canterbury, on the 6th of April, 1492, standing on the steps before the choir door, declares to the people how the famous city of Granada, which many years had been possessed of the Moors, being infidels and unchristened people, was taken by Don Ferdinand and Isabella his wife, King and Queen of Spain, Aragon, and Castile.

The last act of Fox recorded in the episcopal register of Exeter as being personally performed by him was done on the 14th April, 1492, in his Hospice of Isleworth, a suburban residence he must have occupied from its convenient nearness to Richmond.

BISHOP OF BATH AND WELLS.

THE bishopric of Bath and Wells was founded by Edward the Elder in 909. It was and is almost coterminous with the county of Somerset.

The bishopric was an ecclesiastical preferment of high honour, large revenues, and great power and patronage. The Bishop of Bath and Wells was, and is, by prescription entitled to a prominent place in the Coronation of the Sovereign, being in the procession on the left-hand of the King, while the Bishop of Durham is on the right.* The annual income of the property of the Bishop was carefully taken in 1505, and amounted to £1,642 a-year, which, according to the estimate of Mr. Froude, is in present money nearly £20,000 a-year.†

The Bishops of Bath and Wells having such possessions were not likely to have neglected to provide themselves with the residences which personages so great were accustomed in the times of the Plantagenets and Tudors to maintain on their estates. The habits of the great from King John's time to Henry VII.'s were to move from one manor-place to another, and to have a mansion in London. Leland numbers eight manor-places of the Bishop in the county, Banwell, Chew, Evercreech, Wiveliscombe, Wells, Twiverton, and Claverton, besides the London house just without Temple Bar, and the ample domain of Dogmersfield in Hampshire. One

* This position was taken by the Bishops of Bath and Wells from the Coronation of Richard I. down to that of Queen Victoria, Rutland Papers, C.S., p. 12 (*n*).

† The average price of wheat in Henry VII.'s reign was 6*s.* 8*d.* a quarter. Froude, vol. i, p. 21 (1856). The average price of wheat from 1830 to 1875 was 56*s.* a quarter, or just eight times as much, but all these estimates of relative value are to be qualified by other considerations, such as the relative necessary personal expenses, and the price of the superfluities and luxuries of life.

Bishop would gratify his taste by building on one manor, and another on another. These manor houses were on Bishop Fox's accession some of them let and some of them out of repair, but the rough accommodation which they afforded was always supplemented by costly moveable effects, so that in a short time the house could be sufficiently prepared to receive the lord, and the obligations of the tenantry, as to service of carriage and rent in kind enabled the lord to accommodate his retinue and to exercise that virtue of hospitality which has been the duty as well as the privilege, in England, of the Fathers of the Church.

The London house of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, sometimes called Bath Place, was in the Strand, next to Exeter House, and the same class, with gardens down to the riverside. It was a residence fit to receive the King himself, and Henry VII. in passing from Richmond to Greenwich in March, 1508, stayed there from the 13th to the 18th.* It was afterwards Arundel House, and included the present Arundel Street.†

The patronage of the Bishop included all the members of the Chapter of Wells; besides the many livings whose advowsons were vested in the Bishop.

Bishop Fox was now employed by the King in the negotiations with France for a peace, and was, as when appointed to the See of Exeter, obliged to appoint an official Principal and Vicar-General to act in his absence, and to employ a Suffragan Bishop to perform the functions requiring a member of the Episcopal Order. He appoints Dr. Richard Nykke, now Archdeacon of Exeter, Vicar-General in Spirituals, and Cornish Bishop of Tenos,‡ who had conferred orders

* "Where Arundel's famed structure reared its frame,
The street alone retains an empty name."—Gay's "Trivia."

† Bishop Fox calls it his Manor without the Bars of the New Temple.

‡ Tenos is a small island in the Ægean Sea, then belonging to the Venetian Republic, where the Greek Church was established, but the Latin Bishop had some

for him in the diocese of Exeter from 1st March, 1487, to the end of his episcopate, to commence ordinations for him in the Lady Chapel next the cloister of Wells Cathedral on the 16th of June, 1492.

Fox does not appear to have appointed Bishop Cornish* Suffragan Bishop for Bath and Wells as he had appointed him Suffragan Bishop for Exeter. When a special function is to be exercised by a Bishop, the practice seems to have been for Dr. Nykke as the Vicar-General to have given Cornish a special commission to perform it, as the reconciliation and benediction of the polluted parish church of West Pennard on the 24th November, 1492, and the consecration and benediction of the newly-built parish church of Long Sutton on the 8th June, 1493.

During the short episcopate of Bishop Fox (two years and a half) there were 104 collations and institutions to ecclesiastical offices. The collations where the Bishop was patron were 18; the ecclesiastical and monastic patrons were 48: the ecclesiastical being 23, and the lay patrons 38.

The Bishop during his episcopate of Bath and Wells allowed his Vicar in Spirituals to collate to the lesser preferments in his gift; these would be filled up by appointing persons who from local circumstances were most fitted in the eyes of the Vicar-General.

The Bishop himself in person collated to the more important offices; the recipient of these preferments had to attend Bishop Fox at his episcopal house in London or at his episcopal manor of Dogmersfield, in Hampshire.

precedence over the Greek Bishop, according to Tournefort. It is not a Bishopric *in partibus infidelium*, but it is a Bishopric *Sine Cura*, and it is still retained in the Episcopal Lists at Rome.

* Cornish was Master of St. John's Hospital, Wells, and Rector of St. John the Baptist, Axbridge, in this diocese at this time.

On the 12th of June, 1492, Fox, now Bishop of Bath and Wells, was associated with Lord Daubeny, the Lieutenant of Calais, and John Kendall, Prior of St. John's, to treat again for peace with France.

The peace which Fox and his colleagues were authorised to contract with France, was, it would appear, not acceded to by Charles VII., and Henry continued his preparations for war. He summoned and met his Parliament, who granted an Act making lawful a benevolence he had obtained. He sent Christopher Urswicke, and another to urge Maximilian to join him at Calais; he meanwhile collecting a powerful army in the neighbourhood of London.

Fox on the 1st of September was in London, and on the 9th September the King, with his army, left Greenwich for the sea, embarked at Sandwich 6th of October, and the same day landed at Calais, and a fortnight removed from Calais, and after four days' march sat down before and besieged Boulogne.

We have an account of what Fox was then doing in his own words in after days.

"Truth it is that before the Siege of Boulogne, I and others to a right good number as Ambassadors met and had many treaties and communications with th' Ambassadors of France, sometyme at Boulogne, sometyme at Calais, sometyme at Sandyngfeld; and after all my company except Sir John Doon and Sir John Turberville were returned into England, they two and I met at Boulogne eleven tymes with the Lord Cordez, all which season endured from about Mychaelmas to it was about Candlemas then next ensuing; and in the meantime, besides the times of the said meetings I continued always at Calais; and during that time by the King's ordinance that dead is, whose soul God pardon, I meddled with the haven of Calais, and in my mind brought it to that condition that

if the sluices that I caused to be made had not been destroyed by Sir John Turberville, the Treasurer of Calais, it had been made a good haven, and also in the same time I rode to Hammes and Guisnes and had good cheer with the captains, but for this dyd I never meddle in none of the said places."*

The siege of Boulogne helped on the peace which Bishop Fox and Lord Daubeny were commissioned to contract. Charles on his part sent Ambassadors to propose his terms, and on 1st November the chief Generals and Captains of the King's army, either of their own motion or at the suggestion of some leading statesman attached to the Court, at all events with the knowledge that the proposition would not fall upon an unheeding ear, asked the King to accept the King of France's proposals. The fact that Henry's Ambassadors to Maximilian had told him that Maximilian could do nothing, confirmed the King's determination for peace.

The result was that on the 3rd November, 1492, at Etaples a Treaty of Peace was signed by Fox and his colleagues for the joint lives of the Kings, so that the first public act of Bishop Fox, after he became Bishop of Bath and Wells, was to effect that famous Treaty with France which is well known in history as the Treaty of Etaples.† By this Treaty Charles VIII. undertook to pay to Henry 745,000 crowns of gold by half-yearly instalments of 25,000 crowns each.

Stephen Frion, the French Secretary of Henry VII., being dismissed in June, 1490,‡ was the chief contriver of the Perkin Warbeck plot, and was in Ireland with Perkin in March, 1492.

* Ellis' Letters, 2nd Series, vol. 2, p. 7, altered into modern English.

† The importance of the Treaty of Etaples is attested by the ratifications of it which came in during the year 1496 from the Parliaments and corporate towns of France, and are duly recorded in Rymer's "Fœdera."

‡ Another French secretary was appointed by the King on the 16th June, 1490. "Cal. Pat. Rolls," Henry VII., p. 53.

Frion wrote from Ireland letters in Perkin's name to the King of Scotland, who in consequence did not confirm the truce previously made by his Commissioners with the English Commissioner for five years, but only agreed on 18th March, 1492, to a truce till 20th November, 1492. The same day as the Peace of Etaples was signed, when it must have been well known in Scotland that a peace was being arranged between England and France, the truce between England and Scotland was extended to the 30th April, 1494.

The Peace of Etaples extinguished the support given by Charles VIII. to Perkin Warbeck, and lasted for the life of Henry VII. In fact, on the 6th December, 1492, Charles VIII. promised, by an instrument made at Amboise, not to assist rebels against the King of England.* Charles kept his promise, and Perkin Warbeck had to remove to his patroness Margaret, Dowager Duchess of Burgundy, sister of Edward IV. She encouraged Perkin, gave him a guard of honour, called him the "White Rose of England."

The King returned to London to keep Christmas at Westminster, but Fox remained at Calais until he left it for London in February, 1493, and neither he nor the King could have known to what an extent the conspiracy promoted by Margaret had gone when on the 18th February, William Worsley, LL.D., was collated and personally instituted by Fox at his London house to the Archdeaconry of Taunton. Worsley may have been then, as he was afterwards, a favourer of Perkin's designs.

The Bishop personally collated in London Thomas Barowe to the Provostship of Wells Cathedral on the 31st March, 1493, and doubtless concurred in the measures adopted by the King against Warbeck and his supporters.

* Rymer's "Fœdera," vol. xii, p. 508.

Dogmersfield was a residence of great amenity in those days, and, being only about 40 miles from London, was easily accessible to the Bishop for passing the Easter vacation. Easter fell this year (1493) on the 7th of April, and we find him at Dogmersfield at Easter-tide, largely employed in the affairs of the diocese of Bath and Wells, temporal and spiritual.

In mediæval times, mills were a kind of property of special value because of the monopoly which often belonged to them. The mill of a manor had general exclusive right of grinding the corn produced on the manor. Suit to the Lord's mill was an ordinary service of tenants of the manor. At Wells, the gushing and abounding springs in the Bishop's grounds at once create a water power of considerable force, called St. Andrew's Stream; on this and on other streams were the Bishop's mills, of which there were four in the time of Domesday Book. The tenants of the Bishop's manor of Wells were bound to resort exclusively to these Bishop's mills.

Shortly before Easter, 1493, Bishop Fox heard that the Corporation of Wells had opened new mills. This was not to be borne; no doubt the rights of the bishopric had been relaxed in Stillington's days. Sir Amias Paulet, his steward, and Richard Nykke, his Vicar-General, being with him at Dogmersfield, the Bishop put into form his complaint against the Corporation of Wells in four articles to be delivered to the Master of the Town, as the Mayor was then called.

The Mayor summoned a meeting of the burgesses, and Dean Gunthorpe attended the meeting on the 15th April, 1493, which was held in the Chapter House at Wells, and delivered the four articles to the burgesses.

The interest of the proceedings between the Bishop and the Corporation of Wells to the biography of Fox lies in the light

thrown on his character and disposition by his mode of dealing with the city, and we may anticipate the account of what took place after his Easter at Dogmersfield, and return again to his acts there.

The four articles were as follows:—

"Articles to be shewed to the Maister of the Towne and his brethren by the commandement of the Lorde of Bath—

Firste, they hold them for the King's Burgesses, and not myne;

Secondely, they usurpe the makyng and amovyng of Burgesses, where the authority thereof pertaineth onely unto me;

Thirdely, where my Bayliff by myn auctoryte makyth a Burgess, he cannot be so accepted amonge the Burgesses, unto he aftersones be made by them;

Fourthly, where by my Customaryes which I have seyne, the Burgesses, by custome of my Manor, should serve unto my mylles; the said Burgesses open strange mylles."

The Corporation at this meeting in April determined to send an answer to these Articles by John Tyler, one of the Burgesses.

At the next meeting of the Corporation, on the 11th of June, Tyler reported that he had gone on horseback to the Bishop at Kenilworth, carrying the answer of the Town to the Articles, and a letter to the Bishop from the Corporation of the 22nd April, which began in these words: "We recommend us unto your good Lordship in as humble wyse as we can or may suffice, mekely beseeching your said Lordship not to yend hasty credence to any synyster information yeven against your said Cyte; for unfailingly ye shall find your saide Citie of as good and faithful disposition towards your Lordship after the power as they can think to be," &c.

Tyler also produced a letter from the Bishop, which was as follows:—

"Whereas by your writing sent and delivered to me by yor

comburgeys, this berer, ye desyre me to yeve no hasty credence againste you, affermynge yor disposition unto me as good as ye can think, Neighbours, I have yeven you no cause to thinke I am lighte of credence, for I neyther condemned ne sued nor vexed you upon any mater that I have not firste caused you to be spoke with and herd at lengthe, nor yet at this tyme am I so disposed to do. How be it ye make me such answere upon my firste article that ye yeve me righte good cause to sue you; and as for your good disposition towarde me I have yene you no other cause nor shall do want^{g} yor gte defnynge. I know it is my dutye to love and cheryshe you, and so will I do as ferre as I may withoute doynge my Churche and Successors wronge. I thinke also it shall be your wysdome to doe me your good herte, for I thanke God and the King it lieth in my power to do you good and pleaso^{r}, as so suerly I was determined to have done, and namely, in such thinges as some of you have sued in time passed. I praye you, Neighbours, sette aparte all wylfulness and haultesse and be contente to lyve under the righte of the Churche according to your dutye; And as ye appointe to stryve with the same, Loke uppon yor neighbours how they have spedde in case lyke. Loth would I be that all the lande should make both you and me to stryve for your Name. How be it, that it toucheth me moche more than it doth you. Seynge that it could not be littel prejudice to me, standynge yor Lorde and Lorde of ye Burgh, to suffer you to call yourselfe the Kings Burgesses, which claymeth nothing on you more than the dutye of yor allegiance, nor noughte ye have nor hold of him within that Burgh, nor of non of his predecessors. Excepte ye will byde by the grante of King John which I trowe at length ye wull refuse; Neighbours, your answers specially upon this article accordeth to no lawe nor reason, nor they be not these wherewith ye shoulde desyre me to holde me contented, for they be neither clere, certain, ne reason-

able. And therefore as ye wnll that this matter take an ende betwixt us aparte by mutual consideraçon wtonte falling to the sute in the lawe, I pray you sende me as sone as ye goodely may, oone of the best of your comburgeysses and a man learned in the lawe, furnyshed with such evidence as ye have, And or they deporte frō me I truste either partie shall better knowe the right of the other wherewith of reason he should hold hym contente. As so ye shall be sure I will do when I shall be informed that yor ryhte is better than myne; trustynge to finde semblable disposytion in you for your partye: and thus fare ye well. At Warrewyck the XXVII Day of April."

On reading this answer it appeared, the Corporation say in their minutes,* that plainly the Bishop was not satisfied, and they determined to send the Mayor Richard Vowell, and with him Burgess Richard Burnell, to his lordship.

On the 24th of June, another meeting of the Corporation was held; at this meeting the Mayor and Burgess Burnell reported that by the mediation of Sir Reginald Bray, a very great well-wisher to the city, Bishop Fox received them favourably. He examined their evidences, and assented to their having confirmed to them everything given them in the times of the Venerable Fathers Robert, Reginald, and Savaric, Bishops of Wells, and of the very noble John, King of England, according to the charters. The Bishop said he would rather increase than diminish their privileges.

The deputation also reported that the said Venerable Father the Bishop, of his magnanimity and noble liberality, sent to Warwick, before their arrival at Kenilworth, venison, the best and fat, in plenty, and paid all their expenses to Warwick for four days for

* These proceedings are all copied by the kind permission of Mr. Foster, Town Clerk of Wells, from a MS. volume in his office, lettered "Acts of the Corporation, A.D. 1450–1553," p. 178.

eight persons and eight horses, and directed them to be daily commensals in the hospice at Kenilworth. On their return to their country he delivered to them a warrant for two fallow deer,* and a hogshead of the best wine to feast and enjoy themselves with all the Burgesses.

After his letter from Warwick to the Corporation of Wells on the 27th April, the Bishop returned to Dogmersfield, and when there, on the 7th May, corrected an irregularity in the form of installation of dignitaries at Wells, by an ordinance (duly confirmed by the Chapters) requiring the oath of observance of the statutes and customs of the Church of Wells to be always taken by the personage installed.

The Bishop staid at Dogmersfield over the 12th of May, when we find him making Ralph Lepton, already a Canon of Wells, a *Canon Residentiary*, by granting him canonical houses,† and then he formally appoints Sir Amias Paulet Steward of the Bishopric for life,‡ and returns to the King at Kenilworth.

The King was at Kenilworth during the whole summer of 1493, uncertain what part of the kingdom might be attacked by the forces of the Duke of Burgundy and the filibusters of Perkin Warbeck, supported by the Dowager Duchess. Henry consequently in July made requisitions for such levies as he thought necessary to meet an attack.§

Shortly after these requisitions were issued, Henry sent Ambassadors to the Duke of Burgundy|| to insist on the attempts of

* The Bishops of Bath and Wells had the liberty of keeping deer at Claverton Park and Dogmersfield Park.

† Reg. Fox, Bath. & Well.

‡ Reg. Fox, Bath. & Well.

§ See Letters from Henry VII. from Kenilworth, 5th July, 1493 (Ellis' Letters, 2nd series, vol. i, p. 168), and 20th July, 1493 (Gairdner's Richard III., p. 345).

|| The Commission to Sir Edward Poynings, Deputy of Calais, and Wm. Warham, to treat with the Duke of Burgundy, is dated 13th July, 1493 (Pat. 8, Hen. VII.).

Warbeck not being encouraged within the territory of the Duke. The Ambassadors were Sir Edward Poynings, Deputy of Calais, and William Warham (afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury), Doctor of Decrees, who, as orator of the embassy, required that Perkin Warbeck should be expelled from the Duke's dominions.

The answer returned to this embassy by the Council of the Duke, that he declined to interfere with the dower domains of the Duchess Dowager, where Perkin was then entertained, compelled King Henry to stop all commercial intercourse with Flanders by Proclamation dated 18th September, 1493.

Bishop Fox was probably with the King during July and August. In July the Bishop, to encourage Lord Daubeny, who would be certainly high in command in case of hostilities, granted to him the offices of Keeper of the Park of Westbury and Steward of the Manor of Dogmersfield for life; and on the 10th August, Fox, being at Lichfield, collated Thomas Colston, his nephew, to the Prebend of Compton Dundon in Wells Cathedral.

It was obviously a time of great anxiety; the most vigorous measures being required to be carried out with a high hand against Flanders and Scotland.

John Sherwood, the Bishop of Durham, had died at Rome on the 12th January, 1493, and the Cardinal of Sienna (afterwards Pope Pius III.) wrote the next day to Pope Alexander VI. beseeching him not to settle or decide about the See of Durham until acquainted with the wish of the King of England, "for that bishopric is of the greatest importance to his Majesty's State."* The Pope waited the expression of the King's will for about a twelvemonth;† the King meanwhile exercised all the powers of

* R. P., Venetian Papers, p. 217. Wrongly dated 12th January, 1494.

† From a letter recommending John de Giglis for Bishop of Worcester by Cardinal of Perugia. Letters, Rich. III. and Hen. VII., R. P., vol. i, p. 103.

the Prince Bishop of Durham, as usual, during the vacancy of a See.

The truce with Scotland extended to April, 1494, but this did not prevent an arranged raid by Scottish border chiefs* in favour of Perkin Warbeck shortly before November, 1493, and Fox must, from the confidence placed in him by King Henry, who relied upon his knowledge of the Scottish Court, have been continually consulted upon the subject of Scotland.

Henry and Fox were upon such terms that the Bishop would gladly reward the King's Ambassador to Flanders, William Warham, on his return, and accordingly on the 2nd November, 1493, he appointed Warham, *meritis suis efflorentibus*, to the Precentorship of Wells Cathedral; nor was his selection in the same month of the dignified and liberal Richard Beere to be Abbot of the great house of Glastonbury, a less judicious exercise of patronage.

Ever mindful of character, choosing those who promised best for the Church, and never forgetting those who had served or were serving him well, the Bishop did not cease to bestow his cathedral patronage on men who afterwards justified his selection. Dr. Sylke, his Vicar-General at Exeter, gets a Prebend at Wells; John de Giglis (afterwards Bishop of Worcester) gets another Prebend; and the Vicar-General, Richard Nykke, is appointed Archdeacon of Wells on the resignation of William Nykke.

In September, 1494, the Bishop is with the King at his pleasant Lodge of Woodstock, which, from the sport the park and the neighbouring forest of Whychwood afforded him, was a favourite autumn resort with Henry; whilst there, Fox is found encouraging the principle of the parochial tithe being the proper provision for the parish minister by granting to Dr. Cornish, as Vicar of Chewe, and his successors a beneficial and long lease of the tithes of the

* See Tytler's Hist. of Scotland, vol. iv, p. 322.

Bishop's lands there. In August, 1494, the Bishop was selected as arbitrator in a dispute between the Chapter of Wells and the Priory of Montacute,* respecting a mill newly built by the Chapter within their manor of North Curry, on the River Tone, which, like other manor mills, would be of great profit to the Chapter; but before he could make his award he was made Bishop of Durham. His attention was, however, called to this mill some years later, as we shall see.

The King must have made up his mind to procure for Fox the Bishopric of Durham by the 22nd May, 1497, for he is so described in a commission to him and others of that date to treat for peace with Scotland.† It is true that in the same commission Henry, the King's second son, is described as Duke of York, although not actually created Duke till 31st October, but the date is probably correct, and Fox is called the Bishop of Durham in the Herald's account of the Duke's creation.‡ The actual appointment to Durham is said in the title of Fox's Durham Register to be by Papal Authority. The Bull of Translation is dated 7th December, and the writ for the restitution of the temporalities to Fox as Bishop is dated the 8th December, 1494.§

* Reynolds' Wells Statutes, Appendix M.

† Rot. Scot., A.D. 1494.

‡ Leland's Coll., 2nd edition, vol. i, p. 388.

§ The last Act under Fox's authority as Bishop of Bath and Wells, is dated 3rd December, 1494.

BISHOP OF DURHAM.

The Bishopric of Durham was a very different See from those of Exeter and Bath and Wells. It comprised the counties of Durham and Northumberland, and its Prelate was the temporal head of the County Palatine of Durham. The bishopric was moved to Durham in 975. The annual income of the Bishop was, in the King's Books, A.D. 1534, £2,821, or, according to Mr. Froude's estimate, £33,852 in our money. The Chapter of the Bishop was formed by the Prior and Monks of St. Cuthbert's Monastery of Durham; and the Palatinate included Howdenshire in Yorkshire, and a portion of the borders of Scotland from Norham Castle to Tweedmouth and Berwick along the Tweed. The Bishop's residences were at Durham Castle and Norham Castle, with the manor houses of Bishop's Auckland, and the great square tower at Crake, a lordly residence built by Bishop Neville; a house at Darlington, near Northallerton, and a house in Howdenshire. There was an excellent house in London, adjoining the west of the Strand, near the present site of the Adelphi, called Durham Place, with gardens down to the river. There were deer parks wherein were kept fallow deer to a considerable number. The Park of Bishop's Auckland was attached to the Bishop's house there, but the number of deer was less than in either Stanhope Park, Wolsynham Park, or Evenwood, all within reach of Bishop's Auckland, and well removed from the ravages of Scotch raiders or English border foray men. Besides these fallow deer there were red deer in the Great Forest of Weardale, where the annual forest hunt took place, under service to which many

tenancies were held. In Crake Park, within the Royal Forest of Galtrie,* there also were many red deer.†

The very month in which Fox was fully vested in the Bishopric of Durham, the Lord Chamberlain, Sir William Stanley, was charged with plotting in favour of Warbeck and the Yorkists. Stanley was arraigned 31st January, 1494–5, convicted, and beheaded on the 16th February. It is generally the privilege of the clergy, and especially of the Bishops when Lords of Parliament, to be absent when judgment of blood is given, and we doubt not Fox took no part in the proceedings against Stanley; but the Bishops of Durham, the reverse of whose palatine seal was an armed knight on horseback with a mitred helmet, might and did sit in their purple robes on a sentence of death, whence it used to be said: "*Solum Dunelmense stolâ jus dicit et ense.*"‡

This was a time when the King could ill spare Fox to go to his diocese, but it was necessary that he should at once assume the powers belonging to the Episcopate. His first recorded palatine act is letting the mint in the Castle of Durham in January 1494–5. At the same time he made new regulations respecting the coinage, insisting that the silver should be of the same standard as that of the Royal Mint in the Tower of London, and, with his usual precision, he required the coins to be distinguished by a private mark, which seems to have been the initials R.D. on each side of the royal arms and a mitre on the top of the upright of the cross.§

The first episcopal act recorded is his collation, on the 23rd

* Or Gualtrie, as Shakespeare has it. Hen. IV., Act iv.

† Leland says, "To the Park of Crake there was the privilege of a saltatory. This was a decoy or sunk fence adjoining the forest, where the red deer when disturbed or roving could leap into the park, but could not return, so that the park was constantly replenished."—Hutch. Durham, vol. iii, 441.

‡ Brayley's Beauties of England and Wales. Co. Durham.

§ Noble, as quoted in Hutch. Durham.

November, 1494, of Richard Nykke, whom he had found so serviceable as Vicar-General in the diocese of Bath and Wells, to the living of Bishop's Wearmouth, and appointing him by Commission Vicar-General of Durham diocese.* The Bishop had taken possession of Durham Place, styling it "our Hospice in the suburbs of London, next to Charing Cross."

In March and May, 1495, Fox was put into the Commission of Array with the Earl of Surrey, as Vice-Warden of the West Middle Marches,† and with Sir William Tyler, as one of the deputies of the Warden of the Marches, the Warden being the child Henry, Duke of York. These were no complimentary honours, but involved active military operations, a class of work not unknown to other Bishops of Durham. In the same month of May Fox, Lord Dacre, Tyler, and two others were commissioned to treat with Scotland to decide the line of the Marches, for a perpetual peace and a mutual commerce.

On the 23rd June, 1495, Fox was placed in a commission with four others to negociate a marriage between James IV. of Scotland and the King's daughter, Margaret, now only five years old. He seems to have been in ill health the early part of the year 1495‡ until his journey to Durham. In Durham Cathedral he was installed in person 23rd July.§

The Duke of Burgundy continued his double game of favouring Perkin Warbeck, yet trying to pacify the complaints of his subjects at the interruption of trade with England by Henry's Proclama-

* Nykke's Commission is dated 16th Feb., 1494–95, the day of Sir William Stanley's execution.

† Rymer's Fœdera, vol. xii, pp. 568, 569, 572.

‡ See his Letter from London, 10th May, 1495. Letters Ric. III. and Hen. VII., vol. ii, p. 57.

§ He promoted the improvement of the roads by granting indulgences to all who contributed to the construction of Elvet Bridge, in Durham.

tion, and induced the King to commission Fox to prepare a Treaty of Commerce with Flanders which should allay these complaints. Being determined that no more expeditions of Perkin Warbeck should be organised in that country, nor any such enterprises as the Duke in concert with the Dowager Duchess had attempted in 1493, Fox insisted on a clause similar to one he had inserted in his Treaty at Etaples with Charles VIII. in 1492, that neither Prince should receive rebels against the other into his dominions, and also made this prohibition to extend to the dower domain of the Duchess Margaret.

On the 14th August, at Brussels, the Duke of Burgundy signed an authority for making a treaty in accordance with the above demands; and the final Treaty, called by the Flemings *Intercursus Magnus*, was made accordingly.

The first duty of a Bishop of Durham, wrote Richard III. to the Pope on the 31st March, 1484,* is to protect the realm against the Scots; "In one castle a hundred soldiers must be kept even in peace." This was doubtless Norham Castle, then the most important border castle of England, whose history might have been forgotten had it not been made "a possession for ever" by the chivalric poetry of Marmion.

Bishop Fox was a skilful engineer. Whether he studied the art of engineering among the sluices of Lincolnshire or of Lombardy we know not, but we have seen what good work he did in the Haven of Calais as a civil engineer, and now, in 1495, he undertook at Norham the work of a military engineer.

Some little distance to the west of the castle, and beyond the outer ditch, is a small stream, and a cut can be traced connecting the bed of the stream with the outer ditch. This cut, it seems, Fox made, deepened the ditch, and damming up the stream which

* Rymer's Fœdera, xii, p. 224.

supplied a mill, turned the water into the ditch, and so made it a moat.* In other respects he put the fortifications into thorough repair, and well-manned them. This work was done rapidly but effectually, the Bishop attending personally to it. He did not appoint a Governor of the castle, as had previously been done, but kept the post for himself for the first six years of his episcopate.† He spent the winter of 1495–6 in the north, and was with the King's army at Berwick in January and February, 1496.

Bishop Fox was at his episcopal residence of Bishop's Auckland in April, 1496, and had an interview at Berwick with some person authorised by the Scottish King, who maintained his master's determination to encourage Perkin, unless he could have an effectual treaty of marriage with Henry. In fact, on the 8th September, 1496, in answer to Bothwell's terms of peace, the King said he would first have such things concluded as my Lord of Durham came for, and if not he would make a raid into England, on the 17th September, accompanied by Perkin.† This he accordingly did, remaining in Northumberland for about three weeks, and besieged Heaton-on-the-Till. In Perkin's Proclamation, issued under the protection of the Scottish King on the 19th September, Bishop Fox was put first on the roll of Henry's evil counsellors; whilst, on the other side, at this very time, Henry was issuing a joint commission with power for any two of the Commissioners, if Fox were one, and also a separate commission

* In the episcopal accounts for 1495, the tithe of the mill of Norham is entered as *nil*, because the Bishop had "turned aside the water of the said mill to the new foss of the castle made there this year." No further payment is ever mentioned, so the alteration was permanent. Raine's N. Durham, p. 281.

† Reg. Fox, Dun. Hutch. Durham, vol. ii, 226.

‡ Ellis' Letters, 1st series, vol. i.

to Fox personally to negociate the marriage between the Princess Margaret and the Scotch King.*

The Bishop was conferring orders on the 17th December, 1496, in the chapel of Bishop's Auckland, and on the 11th of March, 1496–7, on his way to Norham Castle, he stopped at Alnwick Abbey, and conferred orders in the abbey church there. On the 25th of the same month he was in Norham Castle with his household, and took every precaution against another raid of the Scottish King.

The vicars of Norham seem to have been not desirous of being present at the expected siege of the Castle by the Scots; for in May, 1497, Briswood, the vicar, resigned the vicarage, and the patrons, the prior and convent of Durham, appointed Robert Turpyn in his place. Robert Turpyn in turn seems to have resigned the living to Richard Colson, who was probably a nephew of the Bishop, and a member of his household during the siege, for when the war was really over Robert Turpyn was re-appointed vicar on the 14th April, 1498, on the resignation of Richard Colson.

Whether this state of things was brought by his friend, the historian Surtees, to Scott's notice, we know not; it might have been his poetic fancy that suggested the Captain of Norham's words—

> "Though a bishop built this fort,
> Few holy brethren here resort;
> Even our good chaplain, as I ween,
> Since our last siege, we have not seen,
> The mass he might not sing nor say
> Upon one stinted meal a day,
> So safe he sat in Durham aisle
> And prayed for our success the while."†

* Commissions dated 2nd Sept., 1496. There is a later Commission for Peace-making dated 2nd Nov., 1496, Scot. Rot. Index.

† Marmion, Canto I., xxi.

On the 20th July, 1497, the Scottish King coined his gold chain to provide means for a raid, and on the 5th August he came to attack Norham. On the 7th August, he received £18 (or £216 of our money) to "play at the carts with the Spanyarts" at Norham. Here let Lord Bacon take up the story, as he brings out Fox's proceedings very distinctly. "But Fox, Bishop of Durham (a wise man, and one that could see through the present to the future), doubting as much before, had caused his Castle of Norham to be strongly fortified and furnished with all kind of munition, and had manned it likewise with a very great number of tall soldiers more than for the proportion of the castle; reckoning rather upon a sharp assault than a long siege, and for the country likewise, he had caused the people to withdraw their cattle and goods into fast places that were not of easy approach, and sent in post to the Earl of Surrey (who was not far off in Yorkshire) to come in diligence to the succour."* Polydore Vergil says, Fox held the castle, and by speedy messengers made known all things which happened to the King, who was then in London."† The tall soldiers were commanded by Thomas Garth,‡ a captain who was appointed in 1491, by patent, with Sir James Ormond, Captain and Governor of the army about to be sent to Kilkenny and Tipperary against Perkin Warbeck and his Irish supporters.

The attack lasted fifteen days, but nothing effectual was done, although artillery with stone bullets was used; the outer defences were much injured, but the place was not entered, and Surrey coming to its relief, James retreated to his own kingdom. Surrey then advanced, and by the 15th August besieged and took the

* Bacon's Works, ed. 1826. Hist. Hen. VII., vol. v, p. 137.

† P. Vergil, Angl. Hist. Lib., xxvi, p. 762.

‡ Garth is named among King Henry's evil counsellors with Bishop Fox by Perkin Warbeck in the Proclamation of 19th Sept., 1496.

Castle of Ayton. At Ayton, on the 30th September, a truce was made for seven years, Bishop Fox with others acting as the English Commissioners.

This truce was at once communicated by Fox to King Henry, who was on the day of its date at Wells, in Somersetshire, which county he left on the 6th October for Exeter, from which city he wrote on the 7th a letter to the Mayor of Waterford saying, among other good news, "We understand, by writing from the Right Rev. Father in God, the Bishop of Duresme, that a truce is taken between us and Scotland, and that it is concluded the King of Scots shall send unto us a great and solemn embassage, for a longer peace to be had during both our lives."*

This truce, which was ratified the February following,† terminated the period in 1514 called "the last war." Dacre says,‡ "My lords of Norfolk and Winchester, who lay upon the east border in the last war, know the difficulty" [of a raid into Scotland]. The country between Twizel and Tweedmouth was cruelly laid waste by the Scotch in 1497. What the Vice-Wardens did, let Dacre tell, "My lord of Norfolk in the last war, with my lord of Winchester, Conyers, Sir William Bulmer, and others, and a thousand soldiers, supported by Berwick and Norham, found it as much as they could do to make a raid in Tevydale."§ What a raid meant was putting the whole vale to fire and sword; no wonder we shall hereafter find Bishop Fox lamenting the horrors of war.

Peace being restored, Fox sought to put down the lawlessness of

* Halliwell's Letters of Kings of England, vol. i, p. 175.

† Rymer's Fœdera, vol. xii, p. 673.

‡ R. P. Hen. VIII, A.D. 1514.

§ Lord Darcy says the citizens of Berwick in 1514 ran away when a siege was expected, and he adds: "My Lord of Winchester knows them and their acts full well."

the men of Tynedale and Redesdale, who affected to be bound by no allegiance either to England or to Scotland, and as their offences were backed up by the landowners of those dales, and by persons assuming the title and functions of clergy, the Bishop boldly determined to exercise his spiritual powers. He issued a monition, first, against certain named persons and others, thieves, robbers, and murderers, who inhabited Tynedale and Redesdale; secondly, against the ministers of justice and great men in that neighbourhood who encouraged them and shared their spoil; and, thirdly, against "hedge priests," that is, as Sir Walter Scott explains, "irregular clergymen or persons who assumed the powers of clergymen." These associated themselves "with Border robbers, and desecrated the holiest offices of the priestly function by celebrating them for the benefit of thieves, robbers, and murderers, amongst ruins and caverns of the earth, without regard to canonical forms and with torn and dirty attire and maimed rites, altogether improper for the occasion."* This monition amounted in effect to a sentence of excommunication against those who did not obey its directions to attend before the Bishop or his Commissary in the galilee of Durham Cathedral and the Consistorial Court there within six days after citation. Some of the people in Tynedale and Redesdale consented to oaths being taken on their behalf to keep the peace, and in those days a promissory oath, although not taken personally, when taken by a proxy, appears if broken to have been a sufficient ground for excommunication.† The Bishop knew how to wield the ecclesiastical thunder, and in a letter to Sir Thomas Darcy from Norham in the year 1497,‡ he

* Ivanhoe. Note to Chap. X.

† Gairdner's Letters of Ric. III. and Hen. VII., vol. ii, p. 74.

‡ Neither the monition nor the names of the parties are in the Bishop's Register, which is imperfect. The monition is printed in the Surtees Soc. volume for 1845.

tells him plainly that his Under-Constable stands accursed, and for the weal of his soul he can do no less than sue for absolution. Lord Dacre, years afterwards, tells Lord Surrey that he had sworn the men of Tynedale and Redesdale to be the King's true subjects; and had charged Fenwick to swear the rest; "so that if they break out, he will be able not only to take as they may be gotten, but also to accuse them of breaking their oaths; whereby they nor their wives nor children shall not come within any church to hear the service of God, nor yet have things ministered unto them that doth appertain to Christian men to have of the Church, as was the custom in the time of my Lord of Winchester. This will be a fearful thing to them."

In 1497, the Bishop appointed his nephew, Thomas Colson, Canon of Wells, to be Master of Kepyer Hospital; and during the winter of 1497–8 Fox remained in his diocese. In February, 1497–8, an appointment of one of his officials* is dated at Brancepeth. This was the Castle of the Nevilles, Earls of Westmoreland, which now or shortly afterwards was in the Bishop's hands by virtue of his palatinate, as guardian to the infant Ralph Neville; and in July, 1498, being at his nephew's Hospital of Kepyer, Fox, as having the wardship of the young Earl, collated to the living of Brancepeth.† On the 25th September, 1498, Fox issued an absolution, dated at Norham, releasing by name several of the freebooters who had sued for mercy, and making regulations as to their not wearing arms or armour except against the Scots. We will hope that Darcy's Under-Constable was included.

In August, 1498, Fox granted annuities for life, charged on the

* The official appointed was Nicholas Morton, gent, a faithful servant, and with him at Dogmersfield in April, 1493.

† Hutchinson's Durham, vol. iii, p. 315. It seems that Ralph Neville, Earl of Westmoreland, had died leaving a grandson and heir, Ralph, a minor.

manor of Howden, in Yorkshire, to John Hamerton and Captain Thomas Garth for their respective good services in the defence of Norham Castle. These grants, to be effectual beyond the tenure of the See by the Bishop, required to be confirmed by the Prior and Convent, the Chapter of his diocese. The Bishop was on very friendly terms with the Prior and Convent. John Castell, the Prior, had received, in August, 1498, the very special mark of favour of the grant of a liberty to hunt in person in the Bishop's parks, chaces, and forests, with other advantages.*

In November, 1498, in an affray at Norham village, some Scotchmen were killed by English soldiers of the Castle garrison. This event James IV. considered a breach of the truce, and sent a herald with a protest. King Henry at once requested Fox to write and apologise for the lives lost in the quarrel. Lord Bacon says, "Bishop Fox, being troubled that the occasion of breaking the truce should grow from his men, sent many humble and deprecatory letters to the Scottish King to appease him; where-

* This grant shows so much light on such privileges and on Fox's mode of conferring a favour, that it is here set out in full, the wording being somewhat modernised: "Richard, by the grace of God, Bishop of Duresme to all and every our Foresters and Keepers of our Parks Chaces and Forests within our Bishopric of Duresme, and to their Deputies and to every of them, greeting. Whereas we for the special love and favour that we bear unto our well beloved Brother the Prior of our Cathedral Church of Duresme have made him the Master of our Game within our Bishopric of Duresme, we will and charge you and every of you, that the same our Brother have from henceforth free liberty to hunt and chase in his own person, as often and whensoever it shall please him, with you or any of you. And in likewise to have a deer of the season as often and whensoever he will send therefor at his pleasure, he sending you a bill of commandment from him for the same, which bill we will shall be unto you a sufficient warrant and discharge in that behalf against us and our officers, any restraint or other our commandment to the contrary heretofore given in any behalf notwithstanding. In witness whereof to the present writing we have put our signet and sign manual to endure during our pleasure. Written at our Castle of Norham the first day of August the year of our translation the fourth, *per ipsum E'pum.*" Rot. C. Fox, No. 46. Hutch. ii, 99.

upon King James, mollified by the Bishop's submissive and eloquent letters, wrote back unto him that though he were in part moved by the letters, yet he should not be fully satisfied except he spake with him, as well about the compounding of the present differences, as about other matters that might concern the good of both kingdoms. The Bishop, advising first with his own King, took his journey to Scotland. The meeting was at Melross, an Abbey of the Cistercians, where James then abode. At first he roundly uttered unto the Bishop his offence conceived for the insolent breach of truce by his men; whereunto the Bishop made such humble and smooth answer, as it was like oil unto the wound, whereby it began to heal; and this was done in the presence of the King and his Council."*

It is strange that with Sir Robert Cotton's papers before him, Lord Bacon should have added that the King took Fox apart and suggested the proposition of a marriage between himself and the Princess Margaret. Bacon is supported by Polydore Vergil and by Buchanan, but the fact is that in 1496 James knew very well that the marriage would be consented to when Margaret should be old enough. It is, however, very probable that Bishop Fox on this occasion urged upon the King of Scotland the advantage to him of such a marriage, while to Fox himself the prospect of a real peace between the two nations, and the cessation of the ruthless and savage border raids and forays must have been a heavenly vision.

The negotiations for the marriage went on through the winter of 1498–9, and were duly reported to the Court of Spain and the Signory of Venice by their respective correspondents. The Spanish Ambassador wrote that the Bishop went to Scotland

* Hist. Hen. VII., vol. 5, p. 151.

to see the King, but complained that his negotiations had no result.*

Fox was in London in the spring of 1499, and stood godfather to Prince Edmund on the 24th February, 1498–9. In March he had many interviews with the French Ambassador.

The indissoluble contract of marriage made in May, 1499, between Prince Arthur and Catherine of Arragon, removed some of the difficulties in completing the negotiations between the Scotch and English Kings for the marriage of Princess Margaret.

Meanwhile, with due regard to the proper provision for the banquets which he deemed it necessary that the Bishop Palatine of Durham should give to his guests in his Castle of Durham, he altered the great hall in some essential particulars. Before his time the hall contained two thrones of regality—the use of two is hard to understand—and Fox took down one, shortened the hall (which was perhaps of a disproportionate length† unless there was a screen in the middle), and corbelled out two stone galleries for trumpeters and musicians. He added a large and lofty kitchen, "*amplam coquinam*," on the western side of the lower end of the hall, with all needful offices. These still remain almost as he left them. The buttery hatches for the delivery of the meat from the kitchen, wine and ale from the cellar, and pastry from the pantry, are still to be seen, formed of oak, black with age, carved with Fox's badge, a pelican vulning herself, his motto—"*Est Deo gratia*" (afterwards to be blazoned in his cathedral work at Winchester), and the date "1499."

The profuse expenditure of a Bishop of Durham, with the obligation to keep open house and a public table, are well illus-

* Rolls series, Spanish, vol. i, p. 207. There is a general consensus of opinion that the meeting was at Melrose, but there is no cotemporary evidence of it.

† Then about 136 feet long, 35 feet broad: reduced length, about 101 feet. Per J. T. Fowler, F.S.A.

trated by an extract from a letter from Bishop Routhall to Cardinal Wolsey, dated at Auckland, 24th October, 1513*:—"The hospitality of this country agreeth not with the building a great work, that I spend here would make many towers and refresh my ruinous houses. I brought hither with me eight tunne of wine, and, our Lord be thanked, I have not two tunne left at this hour, and this is fair utterance in two months, and shame it is to say how many beeves and muttons have been spent in my house, besides other fresh meats, wheat, malt, fish, and such baggage; on my faith you would marvel, if my pastures had not been somewhat stocked beforehand, for three hundred persons some day is but a small number, and of these days I have many, besides sixty or eighty beggars at the gate; and this is the way to keep a man poor."

Sir Thomas Darcy wrote to Fox in August, 1499, "My lord, both I and my lady was in all your works at Durham, and veryly they are of the most goodly and best cast that I have seen after my poor mind, and in especial your kitchen passeth all other. We hunted there with Mr. Chancellor and Mr. Treasurer, but in good faith we and our servants and dogs were so weary, we might not; and therefore I was so bold upon your lordship that I had both of your venison and sent to Berwick."† This letter of Sir Thomas Darcy was written not long after one from Fox to him, which, whilst it shows the mode then adopted for good architectural works, affords an illustration of the sweetness and consideration for others always visible in the character of Fox. "It hath pleased the King's grace to ordain and make by his patent a master carpenter for the town of Berwick, and to have a servant under him in the

* Raine's North Durham, p. 291.

† The Bishop had no deer at Durham, but he was entitled to take the deer in Brancepeth by virtue of his guardianship of the young Earl of Westmoreland.

room of a soldier, at ten marks wages and twenty shillings reward. The master carpenter will be with you at Michaelmas, or soon thereupon. I assure you he is right cunning and diligent in his works, and whensoever ye shall have any work of your own, if ye take his advice therein, he shall advantage you large money in the building thereof, as well in the devising as the working of it. His servant also is a right good workman, and if ye think ye will (be) in hand with your work shortly, ye may by the advice of the said servant make your provision of timber and stone now this summer, and then at the coming of the said master carpenter, ye may go in hand with your works as soon as ye will at your pleasure. I pray you heartily be good master to them both for my sake, and that the servant may have his wages without any appechment since the date of the said patent. And I doubt not they shall both do you that service in your work that you shall be content to be their good master though I had not desired you therefore, yet, nevertheless, I pray you eftsone be the better master to them for my sake. And thus heartily fare ye well."* The Bishop was not unimbued with the spirit of the Epistle to Philemon.

By deed, dated 8th July, 1499, the Bishop made the Chaplain of the Virgin's Chantry in Bishop Auckland Sacristan of the Collegiate Chapel of St. Andrew, having the custody of the sacred vessels and vestments, and made him at the same time a commoner and commensal with the dean.† He did not fail to have a deed from the sacristan containing a list of the silver vessels; and there was, too, a list of books. He also endowed six additional choristers for this chapel by a deed of later date.‡

* Letters Ric. III. and Hen. VII., 29th July, 1499, vii, 84. Dated Isleworth.

† The Dean was William Thompson, collated by the Bishop to the Prebend of Barton in Wells Cathedral, 1493.

‡ This deed, dated in 1500, was not confirmed by the Prior and Convent of Durham until 1519.

Meanwhile, the Yorkist party were plotting against the King. It was a desperate game, backed up by the spite of the Dowager Duchess of Burgundy, who had set up Simnel and Warbeck, and who, ignoring the title of her niece Elizabeth, Henry's Queen, encouraged every conspiracy that could raise a rival to the throne, or even disquiet its occupant.

Perkin Warbeck and the Earl of Warwick were both in the Tower, but the party was still at work, and the most active person in it was Edmund Delapole, Earl of Suffolk, the younger brother of the Earl of Lincoln, killed at Stoke.

Suffolk, in September, 1499, after being at the Chapter of the Garter in April, had gone to the Emperor Maximilian in the Tyrol; he had left in England, and at the court of his aunt the Dowager Duchess of Burgundy, other promoters of the old schemes of imposture, disturbance, and insurrection, who, during the autumn, at one time set up a youth named Wilford, pretending to be Earl of Warwick, and at another were contriving escape for Perkin Warbeck and Lord Warwick himself from their imprisonment. It was perfectly immaterial, if the Yorkish party could be induced to rise in revolt, whether it was on behalf of a pretender or an actual member of the Royal House of York. As Dr. Lingard acutely remarks, "If either [Simnel or Warbeck] had succeeded there would have been little difficulty in removing the phantom to make way for the reality."*

Bishop Fox, in September, was with the King at Woking, dealing with the unsettled negotiations with King James as to the marriage of Princess Margaret, and arranging for an embassy to Maximilian, urging him to send back Edmund Delapole to England. Fox, on the 11th September, was appointed sole commissioner to finish the marriage treaty with Scotland, and was himself the final

* Lingard, vol. iv, 8vo. ed., p. 583.

draftsman of the instructions to Sir Richard Guildford and Dr. Hatton as Ambassadors to Maximilian.*

Bishop Fox, in November, 1499,† was elected Chancellor of the University of Cambridge. This was then only a yearly office, although the holder was sometimes re-elected. Fox was probably suggested to the University by Dr. Fisher, then Confessor to Lady Margaret, and the head of a Cambridge House. The only record at Cambridge relating to the election is of the expenses of two proctors riding to the Bishop of Durham elected to be Chancellor.‡ They were probably specially sent to secure his acceptance of the office.

In that same month of November, 1499, were the trial of Perkin Warbeck before Commissioners and the arraignment of the Earl of Warwick before his Peers, John, Earl of Oxford, being Lord High Steward; the execution of Warbeck and Lord Warwick left Edmund Delapole the head of the Yorkists.

Bishop Fox remained in London and its neighbourhood during the winter of 1499–1500, but he was not unmindful of his diocese.

The incumbents of parishes there had been very neglectful of their obligation and oaths to reside, and his Episcopal Register discloses monitions in this respect against the vicars of Newburn, Newcastle, Warkworth, Tynemouth, Heighington, and Hurworth. The Bishop adopted another plan with his own presentees. On his giving away the living of Ryton, he took from the incumbent a bond for £100 (£1,200 of our money) to secure his continued and personal residence.

* We have the draft instructions, settled by Fox in his own handwriting on the 14th September, among the treasures of the Public Record Office.

† Fox is styled Chancellor 1500. The annual Chancellors were chosen in November, but styled for the year following. Carter's Hist. Camb., p. 409.

‡ Liber Grat. B. fo. 131, 1499–1500. We have to thank Dr. Luard for this entry.

In May, 1500, Bishop Fox went with the King and Queen to Calais; the main object of the King's visit, besides the escaping the plague which had just broken out in London, was to have a meeting with Philip, Duke of Burgundy, with whom Fox had effected the Flemish Treaty, called "*Intercursus Magnus*," in 1495. The Court and the Bishop returned from Calais in June, 1500, and Roger Layborn, his Vicar-General in Spirituals, acted for him in his absence from his diocese on 7th August, 1500.

In this year Fox reverted to the practice of his predecessors, and let Norham Castle and its lordship, with the consent of the King, to a tenant (Sir Richard Chamley) upon condition that he kept it garrisoned and in repair.

Norham Castle had been unprovided with a chaplain although it had a chapel. There was belonging to the See of Durham the right of presentation to a chantry in the parish church of Norham. This chantry becoming vacant in 1500, on the 10th December Fox made use of the patronage to secure a chaplain for the castle.* He collated a priest to the chantry on condition that he celebrated Divine service in the chapel of the castle. Fox had no doubt, provisionally by his own chaplain, maintained Divine service whilst he kept the castle in his own hands. His pious thankfulness for the success of his defence against the Scottish King determined him to perpetuate the celebration of the holy offices for the garrison.

On the expiration of Fox's year of office as Chancellor of Cambridge, the autumn of 1500, Dr. Fisher was elected Chancellor in his place, and ultimately, on Wolsey declining to be elected, Fisher, then Bishop of Rochester, was made Chancellor for life.

In 1500 the Bishop gave the office of bailiff of Howdenshire to Henry Gregory for good service in the defence of Norham Castle against the Scots; and in 1501 George Mathewson is appointed

* Hutch. Durham.

bailiff of the vill and lordship of Tweedmouth for good service in the defence of Norham Castle against the Scots. These various grants were unconfirmed by the Prior and Convent, and the Bishop hearing this writes to the Prior of Durham from Coventry on the 31st January, 1501, as follows* :—

"Entirely well-beloved brother; after my hearty recommendation. Whereas I have written to you divers times and many for the confirmation under your convent seal of certain grants that I have made to my servants for such service as they have done to me, and that my church, as well in war as in peace, and specially in the Castle of Norham, as well in the time of the siege as before and after, as long as the War endured; I have understood that ye make great stoppage and difficulty with long delays in the confirmation making, whereof I can not a little marvel, seeing that I make not these grants but for good and reasonable cause and great service done more for the defence of the Land of my Church than to me: Also I make no grants but old and usual, and such as my predecessors have made before me in their days; and I am not yet going from you. Ye do me great wrong thus to imagine upon my departing from you. It is a token that ye holde you weary of me. Whereof your selfe to witness, I never gave you causes. I think I have been as kind and loving to you and yours as ever was Bishop of that See to any of your predecessors, and verily ye have been the same to me, and therefore I marvel greatly whereof this estrangeness groweth. I pray you eftsoons make no difficulties in the confirmation of any of the grants that I have made or hereafter shall make, as ye will the continuance of my old love and favour to you. At Coventry, the last day of January." (Supp. 49.)

On 28th March, 1501, Hamerton's grant is confirmed.

Later in 1501, the Bishop is able, during the minority of

* Original in Raine's North Durham, p. 289. Now modernized.

Lord Westmoreland, to bestow on his friend John Claymond the office of Master or Keeper of the College or Collegiate Church of Stayndrop.

Archbishop Morton had died on the 12th October, 1500, and Langton, Bishop of Winchester, had been nominated to the Primacy, and elected by the Chapter on the 22nd of this same month of January, 1501. Archbishop Langton died of the plague on the 27th January. The See of Winchester was vacant; if by translation the Pope had the nomination; if by death, the King. Canterbury was not filled up until Henry Dean was elected 26th April, upon the King's *congé d'élire* and letter of nomination, and the election confirmed by the Pope on 26th May, 1501.

On the 20th August, 1501, the Pope wrote to Archbishop Dean in commendation of Bishop Fox, styling him "Bishop of Winchester;" whether on this occasion the form of provision by the Pope, or nomination by the King, was observed, does not appear. On the same day occurs the last act recorded of Fox as Bishop of Durham with Roger Layborn as his temporal Chancellor.

The writ for the Restitution of Temporalities of Winchester to Bishop Fox is dated 17th October, 1501.

BISHOP OF WINCHESTER.

THE Bishoprick of Winchester was the oldest See in the kingdom. It was founded in 660, and its prelate took the first place among English Bishops. It was of great extent, as it comprised Surrey as well as Hampshire, and its revenues amounted in Fox's time to £3,691,* in our money over £44,000 a year. Its Cathedral was the Church of the Priory of St. Swithin, Winchester, whose Prior and Convent constituted its Chapter.

The possessions of the See were sixteen Manors; ten within the diocese and six without. They included a town house in Southwark, called Winchester House, with gardens bounded by the Thames; a palace, called Wolvesey Palace, at Winchester, and castles and mansions, which were the manor houses of their respective manors, with parks and pleasances round them as befitted the residence of a great noble of high degree. We find Bishop Fox residing at the manor houses of Bishops Waltham, Esher, and Marwell, and conferring orders in the chapels attached to these houses. He dates sometimes from the Castle of Farnham, but his Castle of Taunton, only just repaired by Bishop Langton, was hardly yet fitted for the reception of its lord, and its deer park of Poundisford had been granted to Sir Hugh Luttrell for life by his uncle, Bishop Courtenay. Waltham had attached to it a chace for deer; adjoining as it was to the Royal Forests of Wolmer and Bere, there were always large herds in it.*

* Fox, Reg. Winton. quinta, MS., 94.

† White, in his Natural History of Selborne, Letter VII, says, "The Waltham Blacks [Poachers] at length committed such enormities that Government was forced

The patronage of the Bishop comprised the Archdeaconries of Winchester and Surrey, many livings, and some monasteries and hospitals. The patronage of a monastic establishment did not extend in general to the nomination of the head of the house, who was usually appointed by election, after the patron had given permission to elect. The patronage of hospitals included the power of appointing the head, and the valuable mastership of St. Cross, "the Almshouse of Noble Poverty," was thus in the gift of the Bishop of Winton.

The Bishop was *ex officio* Visitor of New College and Magdalen College, Oxford, colleges founded by his predecessors, William of Wykeham and William of Waynflete, and Visitor of Winchester School, the oldest public school in England. He was Prelate of the Order of the Garter, an office attached to the See by Edward III. at the foundation of the order.

The See of Winchester was a position admirably fitted for Bishop Fox; and its vicinity to London made its occupancy by his friend and councillor very acceptable to Henry VII. The residence of the Bishop in his diocese became no longer incompatible with easy personal access to his Sovereign.

Fox's first work after he was made Bishop of Winchester was connected with the marriage of Arthur, Prince of Wales, to Katharine of Arragon. He not only advised on the treaty of marriage, but took a principal part in the carrying it into effect.

Political, not personal, considerations brought about the alliance of the Princess with England, but soon her individual character shone out; and the story of Fox's life is brightened by

to interfere with that severe and sanguinary Act called the Black Act of Geo. I., c. 22, and, therefore, a late Bishop of Winchester, when urged to re-stock Waltham Chase, refused, from a motive worthy of a prelate, replying, that 'It had done mischief enough already.'"

the glimpses we get of the "sweet gentleness" of Katharine. We have again and again his tribute to her excellence. In the Privy Council, immediately after the death of Henry VII., Fox spoke of the sweet and virtuous temper of the Princess of Wales, as capable of making a husband perfectly happy; and in 1527, when so few would do her reverence, he did not hesitate to say that the young King on his accession desired the marriage with her, and loved Katharine for her excellent qualities.

Katharine arrived at Plymouth on the 2nd of October, 1501. "The manner of her receiving," says Bacon, "the manner of her Entrie into *London*, and the Celebritie of the *Marriage* were performed with great and true Magnificence, in regard of *Cost*, *Shew*, and *Order*. The chiefe man that tooke the care was *Bishop* Fox; who was not only a grave *Councellor* for Warre or Peace, but also a good *Surveyour* of Workes, and a good *Master* of *Ceremonies*, and anything else that was fit for the *Active* part, belonging to the Service of Court, or State of a great King."*

Fox's duty was to provide becoming escort for the bride through each county on her progress from Plymouth to London. No one could have been more aptly selected for the purpose than he who had been Bishop over Devonshire and Cornwall, then over Somersetshire, and whose present See extended over Hampshire and Surrey.

The programme of the route, settled in Fox's handwriting,† tells us who were the gentlemen he thought most entitled to the honour of attendance on the Princess, in Somersetshire, Hampshire, and Surrey; his directions are explicit.

The Princess, on Wednesday, the 20th of October (1501), accompanied by the Lord Steward (Lord Willoughby de Broke)

* Bacon, Hen. VII., Ed. 1621, p. 203–4.

† P. R. Office.

and the Nobles of Devon and Cornwall (who brought her to Exeter and from Exeter to Honiton) was to leave Honiton and go to Crewkerne and there lodge in the Parsonage the night, "and II or III myles before she come to Crewkerne, she shall be met with Sir Amys Paulet, Sir Hugh Lutterell, Sir John Speke, Sir William Willoughby, Sir John Wadham, John Sydenham of Brympton, and John Horsey, and soo fourthe attend upon her and bring her to Sherbourne and there departe." At Sherborne she was to be met with the gentry of Dorsetshire, and there lodge in the Abbey Thursday night and the Friday following all day. The next day (Saturday) she was to go to Shaftesbury, and lodge at the Abbey Sunday and Monday (being All Hallow Day), and Tuesday she was to draw towards Amesbury, being met on the road by the gentry of Wiltshire, and lodge that night at the Abbey of Amesbury, and there meet the Duchess of Norfolk, and sundry great personages, amongst them the Bishop of Bath (Oliver King) and Sir William Sandes. Wednesday, the 3rd of November, she was to leave Amesbury Abbey and go to Andover, and lodge at the Inn of the Angel. Thence on Thursday, the 4th, to Basingstoke, where she was to lodge at Kingsmills House. Friday to draw towards Dogmersfield,* and there lodge in my Lord of Bath's place that night, and Saturday go to Chertsey, and there lodge in the Abbey. Monday to Croydon, and lodge in the Archbishop's Palace there, and between Chertsey and Croydon to be met by the great personages of Surrey, and from Croydon to the Bishop of Rochester's house in Lambeth, from which she was to enter by way of St. George's Fields, and there be met with my Lord of York, the Kinge's second son, attended upon with the

* The King and Prince of Wales, doubtless on the recommendation of Fox, met the Princess at Dogmersfield.

Lords, among the foremost of whom were the Archbishop of York and the Bishop of Winton.

Four years before, the Cornish insurgents had passed through the same counties from Bodmin to Blackheath, undisturbed and unopposed, until they found the King and his army encamped in St. George's Fields, between themselves and the City of London, the object of their progress; they were defeated at Blackheath, but the rising was treated with such judgment and discretion, that those gentry who had been fined for their complicity or supineness on that occasion, were selected for the escort of the Princess of Spain.

A quarter of a century afterwards Fox said he remembered the entry of Queen Katharine into London, and that he met her in St. George's Fields, conducted her into the City, and was present at the solemnisation of the marriage at St. Paul's Cathedral, on the 14th of November, 1501.

The untimely death of Prince Arthur on 2nd April, 1502, produced the most afflicting distress to his father and mother, and the picture of their grief drawn in a letter from Greenwich is very affecting.* In startling contrast to the feelings of Henry VII. and Elizabeth are those of Ferdinand and Isabella, who did not hesitate as soon as the 10th of May† to instruct their Ambassador

* "When His Grace understood that sorrowful, heavy tidings, he sent for the Queen, saying 'that he and his Queen would take their painful sorrows together'; but after she had comforted him and gone to her own chamber, a natural and motherly remembrance of that great loss smote her so sorrowfully to the heart, that those that were about her were fain to send for the King to comfort her. Then His Grace of true, gentle, and faithful love, in good haste came and relieved her, and showed her how wise counsel she had given him before; and he, for his part, would thank God for his son, and would she do in like wise." This touching tale disposes of the insinuations of Bacon against the regard of Hen. VII. for his Queen. Letters, Rich. III. and Hen. VII., R.P., vol. i, pref. p. 29.

† R.P., Spanish, vol. i, May, 1502.

at the English Court to propose a contract of marriage between the younger brother of Arthur, Henry, a child eleven years old, and their widowed daughter.

Edmund Delapole, Earl of Suffolk, the "White Rose" of the Yorkists since their loss of Lord Warwick, had been staying with Maximilian I. at Imst,* in the Tyrol, but had now returned to Aix-la-Chapelle. He was there mightily encouraged by the death of Prince Arthur, and said that nothing but the boy Prince, Henry, now stood between the Throne of England and himself.

In his correspondence with the Emperor from Aix, Suffolk makes a charge against Bishop Fox. On the 12th May, 1502, he writes to Maximilian that Sir James Tyrrel had been induced by gentle words† of Fox, the Lord Privy Seal and another, and upon sureties being given for his going and returning in security, to leave Guisnes Castle, of which he was Governor, and put himself into the hands of Sir Thomas Lovel, who took him to the Tower. Suffolk adds that Tyrrel's son, who was taken with his father, was in danger, but that Tyrrel was safe on account of the sureties.

If Suffolk's story was true, the course pursued towards Tyrrel was extraordinary, for, in fact, Tyrrel had been beheaded six days before the date of Suffolk's letter, whilst the youth was pardoned. But the story is very improbable, there is no trace of Fox being at Calais or out of England between November, 1501, when Suffolk's adherents were excommunicated at Paul's Cross, and March, 1502, when Tyrrel was committed by the Privy Council to the Tower; so no personal communication by word of mouth could have taken place between Fox and Tyrrel, before his surrender.

* The Innthal at every turn abounds with memorials and traditions of Maximilian.

† "*Puleris verbis.*"

It is not likely that the Bishop should any way have promised to send back Tyrrel to his Castle at Guisnes, free to act as he chose. Had Fox so promised, it is probable that the promise would not have stood in the way of Tyrrel's execution; although he was beheaded for conspiracy, yet the possibility of pardon was excluded by his confession of a more heinous crime than plotting treason.

Tyrrel, whilst in the Tower, declared that he had ordered the murder of the two Princes in 1483, and John Dighton, the survivor of the two murderers, then attested the truth of Tyrrel's confession. Down to this time, Tyrrel was not suspected by Henry or his Council of being concerned in the murder. No member of the Council would have been more pronounced against the criminal than Fox, to whom loyalty to his Sovereign was the very breath of his life, and whose memory must have been full of the thrill of horror that went through France when the Chancellor addressing the States General in January, 1484, spoke with detestation and abhorrence of Richard, King of England, mounting by the murder of his Royal nephews to the Throne. Tyrrel confessed that he waited at the foot of the stairs while his ruffians executed his commands; as soon as the fact of his having directed the foul deed was established, had the offence for which he was first arrested been forgiven (as his son's participation in it was) he must have been detained and dealt with for this atrocious assassination. "Against Sir James Tyrrel," says Lord Bacon, "the Blood of the *Innocent Princes*, EDWARD the Fifth, and his Brother, did still crie from under the *Altar*."

Bishop Fox soon found at Winchester the same necessity and scope for his architectural skill as would have employed him, had he remained at Durham, to carry out the works he planned there.

At the very time he was made Bishop of Winchester, the

choir of the cathedral was in a critical position. Thomas Silkstede, who became Prior of St. Swithin in 1498, immediately set about alterations and improvements to the choir, and Bishop Milner suggests, that the expensive work Prior Silkstede was meditating or actually carrying on in the Church of St. Swithin, led to a visitation of the Priory by the Chapter of Canterbury. This visitation took place when the Sees of Winchester and Canterbury were both vacant; between 27th January and 26th April, 1501. Fox, whom the Pope in August, 1501, styles Bishop of Winchester, was probably about the time of the visitation offered the appointment to that See, and would have his attention called at once to the architectural state of the cathedral.

The construction of the present roof of the choir must have been the first building operation of Bishop Fox.

A long period had elapsed since steps had been taken in carrying out the change at the east end of Winchester Cathedral from a Norman apse to a Perpendicular choir. Bishop Edington held the See from 1345 to 1366, and Professor Willis was of opinion that Edington put up the present eastern piers, pier-arches, and clerestory of the choir. There are several details in the clerestory that resemble similar ones in Edington's work at the west end of the nave. Edington's successors, William of Wykeham, Cardinal Beaufort, and William of Waynflete, were entirely taken up with the great changes in the nave.

The internal roof of the choir is of wood, framed to imitate stone. In point of fact, this roof was probably completed and decorated by Fox before the end of 1502.

Among the coats of arms which are to be found on the bosses

* The monks of the Priory were found to be 35, and their annual revenue to be £1,000. Milner's History of Winchester.

of this internal roof are not only those of Bishop Fox and Henry VII., but also a coat of the Royal Arms of England, with a label of three points; and another coat having in the first and and fourth grand quarters, the arms of Castile and Leon quartered, and in the second and third grand quarters, those of Arragon and Sicily impaled. Those two coats are the arms of Arthur, Prince of Wales, and Katharine of Arragon, respectively. We are indebted to Dr. Kitchin, the Dean of Winchester, for the suggestion that Bishop Fox would not have inserted these two coats of arms, unless the roof was in substance completed before the death of Prince Arthur in 1502.

Nor is this all; not only was the roof of the choir decorated by the end of Fox's first year at Winchester, but the preparation for the support of this roof was executed by him. This support is by flying buttresses. These flying buttresses, which the jointing of the masonry proves, Professor Willis says,* to have been subsequent insertions into the walls of the clerestory, have the pelican of Fox carved on them. The insertion of these buttresses is explicable if we recollect that these clerestory walls have been attributed with great propriety by the Professor to Bishop Edington.

To what extent the whole stone-work of the east end of the choir was done continuously after the completion of the roof it is difficult to say, but it is probable that the gable and east window were not finished until after Fox had built the side aisles and their stone roofs of liern work.

On St. Paul's Day, 1502–3, at Richmond, the espousals for the marriage, so long promoted by Bishop Fox, of the King of Scotland with Henry's eldest daughter, the Princess Margaret, were entered

* Arch. Hist., Winch. Cathedral. Proceedings Arch. Hist., Winchester, 1845.

into. Fox was present. They were published at Paul's Cross, and Te Deum was solemnly sung.

Elizabeth of York, to the great grief of the nation, died in giving birth to a daughter in the Tower of London on the 11th February, 1503, just after the esponsals of her daughter Margaret.

The King and Queen of Spain continued very urgent for the contract of marriage of Henry, now Prince of Wales, and Katharine, and a treaty for the marriage was entered into at Richmond on the 23rd of June, 1503. Ferdinand asserting as a fact "that although they were wedded, the marriage between his daughter Katharine and Arthur, Prince of Wales, was formal only."*

The Princess Margaret was not to be sent to Scotland in pursuance of the treaty of marriage until 1st September, 1503. On the 25th June, 1503, gallantly attended, she set out for the North, the King bringing his daughter on the way as far as Collyweston, the seat of his mother, and then consigning her to the attendance of the Earl of Northumberland. The Earl, with a great troop of lords and ladies of honour, brought her into Scotland, and she was actually married to the King at Edinburgh on 8th August, 1503, to the great joy of both nations.

"This *Marriage* had been," says Lord Bacon, "in Treatie by the space of almost three years, from the time that the King of *Scotland* did first open his mind to *Bishop* Fox."†

In January, 1504, the King summoned a Parliament. It was in this Parliament that Sir Thomas More, then a youth of 24, opposed the amount of the aids which Henry asked the Commons to give for making his eldest son a knight and for marrying his eldest daughter. Instead of these indefinite demands, the Commons

* R.P., Spanish, vol. i, p. 309.

† Bacon, Hen. VII. Ed. 1621, p. 208. It was in treaty more than seven years. Sup., pp. 42-44.

offered a subsidy of £40,000. The King accepted only £30,000, but was angry with young More for his opposition. Roper, More's son-in-law, in his "Life of More," written in 1547, says Bishop Fox offered to give More advice what to do to restore himself to the King's favour, but that instead of going to the Bishop, More consulted Richard Whytford, the Bishop's Chaplain, who prayed him in no wise to take counsel with the Bishop, "for my Lord, my master," quoth Whytford, "to serve the King's turn will not stick to agree to his own Father's death." Roper adds, "So Sir Thomas More returned to the Bishop no more, and had not the King soon after died, he was determined to have gone over the sea, thinking that being in the King's indignation, he could not live in England without great danger." This violent and disloyal speech of Whytford, if uttered, is of a piece with the wild language he used on other occasions, but so far from More retiring from public notice and practice in his profession, he in October, 1504, is walking up and down Westminster Hall as usual; in 1505 was so successful in practice as to be able to marry well; and in May, 1506, Erasmus writes to Whytford of More, as so influential a person, that as a patron he left nothing to be desired. Roper does not say that More told him this story, and during the five remaining years of the King's reign, we find no trace of More suffering from any withdrawal of royal favour. It is not unlikely that Fox did take an opportunity to soften the King's displeasure against More.

This year, 1504,* Bishop Fox and Archbishop Warham were named by Julius II. in a renewed Commission granted to inquire into the claims to canonization of Henry VI. Innocent VIII. had issued, at the request of Henry VII., a reference to certain Cardinals and a Commission to Archbishop Morton and Bishop

* MSS., Cott. Cleopatra, Ed. III.

Fox directing them to go to Windsor where Henry VI. was buried, and inquire into his character and the miracles done by him. In 1494,* this Commission was repeated to Archbishop Morton and Bishop Fox by Alexander VI. At the same time, and upon the request of the King, a Commission was issued by Pope Alexander to the same prelates to inquire into the character and miracles of St. Anselm, formerly Archbishop of Canterbury. The favourable return to this Commission led to the canonisation of St. Anselm; the expenses of which were paid by the King.† As to Henry VI., the Commission of Pope Julius was not returned in Henry VII.'s lifetime,‡ and the matter, as Bacon puts it, died under the reference, for Bishop Fox knew as well as Pope Julius the distance that should be kept between Innocents and Saints.

In 1504, Dr. Fisher was made Bishop of Rochester. There is a letter extant from the King§ to Lady Margaret his mother informing her that he is well minded to promote Master Fisher, her confessor, to a Bishopric, but without her pleasure known, the King wrote, "I will not move him, nor tempt him therein." In after years, Bishop Fisher, in his dedication of a book to Bishop Fox,‖ states that Fox was the chief author of his being raised to the episcopate.

In May, 1504, Bishop Fox's attention was again directed to the new mill on the River Tone, in Somerset (see *supra*, p. 39). After the Bishop's translation to Durham, a Royal writ in March, 1495, suggested to the Prior of Montacute to continue the reference to Bishop Fox as arbitrator, notwithstanding his translation to Durham. But Fox seems to have declined the office.

* Wilkins' Concilia, vol. iii, A.D. 1494.

† Dean Hook's Life of Abp. Morton. The fees were 1,500 ducats.

‡ Harl. MSS., 1,243, No. 31.

§ Ex. Reg. Coll. Joh. Published by Baker, 1708.

‖ Dedic. to Œcolampadius, 1525.

The question was referred to other arbitrators in May, 1496; the decision was made, the mill and mill-weir were built, and the mill, being the lord's mill for the manor of North Curry (more than 11,000 acres) belonging to the Chapter of Wells, with the usual exclusive right of grinding all corn grown in the manor, was a source of considerable income to them.

The mill-weir, however profitable to the Chapter, was a source of great evil to the copyhold tenants of Bishop Fox's manor of Taunton Dean adjoining the river, as it produced great floods, inundating their cornfields and pastures. Not only the copyholders of the Bishop's own manor complained to him, but also the tenants of the Prior of Montacute; and the men of Taunton protested against the erection, as being an obstruction to the navigation of the King's navigable river between Taunton and Bridgwater.

Bishop Fox was not the man to neglect these complaints, and sent down Master William Frost, the Steward of his Bishopric of Winchester, and Edmund Myll to inquire into them, and in May, 1504, the Dean of Wells and Bishop Cornish and another member of the Chapter were appointed to meet the counsel of Bishop Fox, and endeavour to arrange the matter.

Nothing was settled, and in November the Chapter wrote to Bishop Fox, and sent their letter to him in London by the Dean, W. Cousyn, who reports to the Chapter: "In noe wyse I can not have his Lordship at no conclusion, but that he will have doune the Bay of Stone made by the Prior." In 1505, proceedings go on, and the Dean, on 3rd April, 1506, is again sent to see the Bishop; the report is illustrative of Fox's character.

"So it is, that upon Monday, the last day of Aprile, the Deane and I spoke with my Lord of Wynchester. The cause why we spoke with him no sooner was for his being at his Maner of Esher,

where he gave orders on Passion Sunday Eve. When we had moved hym in suche maters as we came for, we found him somewhat rough, saying he was divers times misinformed by us; and that the King on the one part suffered wrong by reason of the stopping of his Common Stream, and also that the tenants were grievously hurt by the reason of our mill; with as soft manner and word as we could, (we) pacified his mind for the time. The morn after we were with him again, and then he shewed us how it was reason for him as well to give credence to his counsel as to us, and that he would speak with them in the cause. Nevertheless he gives us gentle and kind words like a nobleman, but as yet we have not our final answer; ye wolde wonder what causes he hath to do and therefore we must abyde his leisure."

The Chapter tried to turn the Bishop through the intervention of his niece, Mrs. Myll, and with this intent wrote to him on 19th January, 1507, but it seems the inexorable writ for abating the stone weir was coming to the Sheriff of Somerset, founded upon a Commission which sat at Taunton, and the Chapter write to Richard Philips, Under-Sheriff of Somerset, a letter "given at Wells at Whitsunday in haste, A.D. 1507, that they have obeyed the Writ to remove the building made in the water of Tone, and beg him to come and inspect the place." Reynolds, Wells, App. M., p. 210.

Later in the year, on 19th August, 1504, Bishop Fox was placed at the head of a Commission to examine claims upon the King for loans or prests. Such loans or prests had been usually made to the King upon the security of expected grants to him in Parliament. It is probable that some had been made upon the credit of the aids or subsidy to be granted by the Parliament of January. Henry was accustomed to pay these loans with great punctuality at the time appointed, but Dudley, the Speaker of that

Parliament had probably cautioned him against relying upon grants of Parliament for the future. Certain it is that the King summoned his faithful Commons no more. Bishop Fox had found, Erasmus says,* difficulty enough with the clergy in getting subsidies from them, and had also put the celebrated dilemma to them, "that those who lived poorly must needs have money, because they laid up; and those who were spenders must needs have, because it was seen in their port, and manner of living."†

The Bishop seems to have undertaken this year the superintendence of building works connected with almshouses at Westminster, called the King's Almshouses.‡ It were superfluous to enquire what in particular these were. Henry VII. "built and endowed many religious foundations," says Lord Bacon, "besides his memorable Hospital of the Savoy. And yet he was "a great Alms-giver in secret; which showed that his Works in "public were dedicated rather to God's Glory than his own."§

In February, 1505, Henry, Prince of Wales, attained the age of fourteen. Warham advised in June 1505, a protestation by the Prince against the contract of marriage with Katharine of the 23rd June, 1503, which had been sanctioned by the Bull of the Pope of 7th January, 1504. Bishop Fox was selected by the King to be the person before whom the protestation was to be taken. It was made before the Bishop sitting "judicially, instead of a tribunal." The effect of it was, as Bishop Fox stated upon his examination on the subject in 1527, that the Prince should not be bound to the contract made in his infancy by acquiescence after puberty, and that he might according to his free will

* In his Book of Ecclesiastes or the Preacher.

† This is credited by Bacon to Morton, and called Morton's Fork. Bacon, Hen. VII. Ed. 1621, p. 101.

‡ Excerpta Historica, Hen. VII., Expenses, Nov. 29th, 1504.

§ Bacon, Hen. VII. Ed. 1621, p. 233.

select any woman he wished for a wife. The protestation was witnessed by Lord Daubeny, Sir Charles Somerset, the King's Secretary Dr. West, and Sir Henry Marney, all Privy Councillors, at Durham Place where the Princess resided, and in her presence.*

Fox, as Bishop of Winchester, maintained the discipline of the Church. On his return to Esher, on the 6th July following the protestation, he gave special directions to his archdeacons to visit personally all the churches in their respective archdeaconries, and to insist upon the residence of all parochial clergy;† and he had not long before issued an inhibition that no excommunicated person was to be allowed to receive the Eucharist.‡ He upheld the severity of excommunication; we have seen how he used the penalty of this sanction against the lawless men of Tynedale and Redesdale; and a few years later he treated the churchyard of St. Margaret, in Southwark, as so polluted by the burial in it of an excommunicate, as to require the office of reconciliation before it could be restored to its uses.§

The Bishop, as Prelate of the Order of the Garter, of course attended at the installation of Philip, Duke of Burgundy and King of Castile, at Windsor, on the 9th February, 1506, when Philip had been storm-staid at Weymouth. King Henry appears to have taken the opportunity of asking King Philip for a renewal by him as King of the *Intercursus Magnus*, Fox's Treaty of 1496 with him as Duke; to this renewal Philip agreed. After the installation, and in the Chapel of St. George, Archbishop Warham, as Lord Chancellor, and Fox, as Lord Privy Seal, presented to King Henry the draft of the Treaty of Amity and Peace, with divers new Articles, and there, sitting in their stalls, each King signed

* R. P., Spanish Documents, vol. i, p. 359.

† Reg. Fox, Winton. 2da fo. 97, b. 98.

‡ Id. 81.

§ Id. 3a 55.

with his own hand the writings, and swore to observe the same. The Treaty was dated 9th February, 1506.

During the visit of King Philip and his Queen, a marriage was negociated between Henry VII. and Philip's sister, the Archduchess Margaret, Dowager Duchess of Savoy, and the details of the treaty were left to ambassadors on either side, of whom Bishop Fox was one on Henry's part. The ambassadors concluded a treaty of marriage on 20th March, 1506, but the lady declined the proposals although renewed again and again. It was in the subsequent negociations that Wolsey, who had been introduced to Henry VII. by Bishop Fox, was first employed by the King.

Fox, in 1506, held a visitation of Magdalen College at Oxford, and spent the autumn at Esher, in the chapel of which manor on 17th September, 1506, he again celebrated general Orders.

The Bishop's attention was now directed to the state of the nunneries and monasteries in his diocese. It was his especial care to look after the discipline of the conventual houses of nuns. The House of Romsey seems to have been exposed to some danger by the conduct of a Mr. Folton, which the Bishop by his Vicar-General, in January, 1507, sharply rebuked. Folton was not to approach, or send or direct letters to be sent to, any nun of Romsey under pain of excommunication; the Vicar of Romsey was implicated in the matter, and he was warned that he was to have no communication with the Abbess or with any of the nuns of Romsey.* This same month, Fox sent his Vicar-General to visit the Abbey of Hyde, and at this visitation by Dr. John Dowman,† the Prior with six senior monks was summoned to the Chapter House to hear serious charges. These were, as to the permitted

* The proceedings were partly taken in St. George's Inn at Romsey, and partly in the Chapter House of the Abbey. Reg. Fox, II., 41 b.

† Liber Monasterii de Hyda. Inter., p. lxii. R. P., 1866.

access of women into the precincts of the monastery; the alleged frequentation of taverns in the city and suburbs by some members of the community; the insufficient instruction of the younger monks in religious duties; and, finally, as to an unseemly discussion which had arisen respecting the next presentation to the church of Worthy. Then twenty-five junior monks were summoned in their turn, and duly admonished. This done, the Vicar-General conferred with the Abbot himself and the seniors as to reformatory measures. The seniors admitted laxity as to egress; alleged their ignorance of all foundation for the more serious charges; spoke of the difficulty of enforcing a strict and literal observance of some points of their Benedictine rule; but promised vigilance and increased exertion for the future.*

During Easter, 1507, the King had a violent attack of quinsey, but quite recovered his health, and enjoyed his hunting in the summer.†

Bishop Fox, although he did not become Chancellor of Cambridge University a second time, yet interested himself in the prosperity of Pembroke Hall there, and sent the £50 before mentioned (*supra*, p. 37†) to the Hall by Roger Layborn and Ralph Lepton.‡ Layborn became Bishop of Carlisle, and, in November, 1505, Master of Pembroke Hall, and on his death, in August, 1507, the scholars of the Hall elected Bishop Fox Master, and wrote to him a letter which they sent by their brethren, Thomas Patterson, S.T.B., and Thomas Hostebe, M.A., begging his acceptance of the office, by which acceptance he would perform an act in their opinion as pleasing to God and pleasant to mortals as if he

* Reg. Fox, Winton, II, 42.

† R. P., Spanish, vol. i, p. 437.

‡ Vet. Reg. Aul. Pemb., p. 9–17. Examined by the kind assistance of the Master, Dr. Searle, 8th March, 1888.

were to found a new college. They beg their brethren to plead for them, and say that sixteen of the scholars are priests and will pray for him.

At the time of his election as Master of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge, he was engaged in revising the statutes of Balliol College, Oxford. This college had already elected him Visitor. These statutes were revised under a Commission from Pope Julius II. to Bishop Fox or the Bishop of Carlisle, Roger Layborn, to revise them. Layborn's decease not only made the Mastership of Pembroke Hall vacant, but threw the burden of this revisal upon Bishop Fox. He accomplished his task in an admirable manner, which has made his statutes for Balliol models for other collegiate institutions.*

The Treaty of Windsor (February, 1506) was called "*Intercursus Malus*" by the Flemings, because the privilege of free fishing upon the coasts and seas of England granted by Fox's treaty of 1496 was not confirmed to them by the Windsor Treaty.

In October, 1507, Bishop Fox, the Earl of Surrey, Lord Treasurer, Thomas Docwra, Prior of Rhodes in England, and Doctor West, went to Calais to have a conference with the legates of Flanders on the subject of commerce. This was an important embassy, and the King, before it was sent, spent some days at Winchester.†

In December, 1507, Bishop Fox returned to Dover, and we are told by André that he was ill, but in the same month he was engaged in negociating the marriage of Princess Mary with Charles, the Prince of Castile, afterwards Charles V. The treaty for this marriage went on until the actual contract was signed

* Their merits are particularly enlarged upon by Mr. Maxwell Lyte in the first volume of his Hist. Univ., Oxford, p. 445.

† Puebla's letter 5th Oct., 1507. R. P., Spanish, vol. i, 437.

by Bishop Fox and the other commissioners at Calais in 1508.

Bishop Fox, in August, 1508, was attacked by the sweating sickness. It broke out in England with the beginning of the Tudor dynasty. It was said to have first appeared in 1485 in Henry VII.'s army, upon his landing at Milford Haven, but there is no mention of it until the disease attacked London on 21st September, after the army's arrival there. It was peculiar to England, appeared many times, and always in summer; in 1506, now in 1508, afterwards in 1517, when Fox was again attacked, and then it was so violent that it killed in the space of three hours; once in 1520, again in 1528 and proved fatal in the space of six hours. It was here in Edward VI.'s reign in 1551, when it was stated to be a judgment for the Reformation. It seems to have been a form of the plague brought from the Levant, and modified by the moist English climate. It is said to have affected Englishmen, even when it broke out in France, more than the inhabitants. Erasmus, who lost his friend Ammonius by it, does not hesitate to attribute it to the practices of uncleanliness in the English dining halls, where rushes were spread which were seldom renewed; and to the want of ventilation in other sitting rooms; practices which, after his experience of Dutch scrupulosity and cleanliness, must have appeared particularly repulsive to him.*

In July 1509, A. Badoer, the Venetian Ambassador writes to the Council, "The Bishop of Winchester is the warm friend of Venice;" and we find that Bishop Fox was always in favour of that line of foreign policy which supported the Venetian

* Little is known about it more than is told by Freind, Jortin, and Hume. Freind's Hist. of Physic; Jortin's Life of Erasmus; Hume's Hist., vol. iv, p. 20; Quarterly Review, Jan., 1887.

Republic and maintained the alliance of England with the Council of Ten. Henry VII. never joined or encouraged the League of Cambray, formed against the Venetians by the King of France and the Emperor Maximilian, and signed at Cambray on the 10th December, 1508,* by the Archduchess Margaret. It was intended to divide between the contracting parties and the Pope, when he should concur, all the *terra firma* of the Venetians, and to give to all an interest in the destruction of the only state sufficiently strong to maintain the independence of Italy, and to be, as Henry VIII. called Venice, "a bulwark against the Turk."†

In the beginning of 1509‡ Fox was again obliged to issue injunctions as to the conduct of monks on a visitation of the Priory of St. Denys, Southampton. In order to the true worship of God it was enjoined that the nocturnal and daily offices, the celebration of masses, the ceremonies and hours according to rules in choir and convent, be duly observed; that since ignorance is the mother of error, the rule of public reading and exposition be diligently kept; that no meetings with women be permitted in the church, and none but honest women admitted within the convent; that the brothers go about two by two, and never frequent taverns, nor go to Portswood or Southampton to dine, except by leave, lest by secular conversation their quiet be disturbed, and they be tempted to worldly thoughts and desires; that when at home they exercise themselves in reading; that

* This treaty was only the completion of a secret Treaty of Blois of the 22nd Sept., 1504.

† R. P., Venetian, vol. ii, p. .

‡ In the early part of 1509, says Anthony Wood, there was a book dedicated to Fox, entitled "De casu Animæ," written by Aubrey Mantuan, a student of the University of Paris, whose Epistle Dedicatory being dated at Paris on the Kalends of January, 1509, hath several matters therein in commendation of the Venerable Prelate, all of which, for brevity sake, Wood says, "I pass by."

doors be shut at proper times and safely kept; that no drinking be allowed in the refectory; that the brethren wear the dress of their order (Black Canons of St. Augustine) and no other; that they make no discussions in the House; that accounts of the convent be rendered openly before all, at least once a year. These injunctions were contained in twenty-four articles, and were issued on 10th February, 1509.*

And now the reign of the founder of the Tudor dynasty was drawing to a close, and Fox alone was left of those three councillors who brought him in first, and then guided him on, —Morton, Fox, and Bray. Henry VII., only twenty-eight years of age when he fought at Bosworth, had had singularly little opportunity of acquiring habits of business, and must at first have been very dependent upon the advice and assistance of his ministers. "In his greatest business," says Bacon, "King Henry imparted himself to none except Morton and Fox." Morton was sixty-five when the King began to reign, so Fox was much nearer in point of age to Henry, and more the personal friend of the King than Morton. Morton died in 1500, and from that time Henry seems in the higher branches of state affairs to have confided in no one but Fox.

Henry VII. signed his last will at Canterbury 10th April, 1509, and then issued a proclamation of general pardon for all offences down to that day. He died at Richmond on the 21st of the same month. The young King remained at the Tower till after the funeral of his father. Margaret, Countess of Richmond, signs at the head the directions for the obsequies. These directions were drawn up by Fox, and are in his handwriting.

* Davies, Hist. of Southampton, p. 441, quoting from Reg. Fox, Win'on II, 119.

Henry VII. was buried on the 10th of May at Westminster "in one of the stateliest and daintiest monuments of Europe, both for the chapel and the sepulchre."*

Nor was the monument of his tomb unbecoming, for in his buildings he was magnificent, and although Sir Reginald Bray has the credit of being his guide and counsellor in this matter, yet Fox, who was of excellent skill in architecture, and so much with the King, would be also consulted and employed by him. Fox, from his own first accession of power and fortune, encouraged, like his Sovereign, architectural display.

We cannot but think that Ropesley Church affords an early instance of the taste as well as the pious gratitude of Bishop Fox; for the south porch was built in the year 1486; and in February, 1486–87, he was made Lord Privy Seal.

The porch is panelled and pinnacled with a carved statue on the central pinnacle, and inside the porch over the door leading into the church is the following inscription :—

A° Dni M° cccc° lxxxvi° ista porta fâ fuit.

On the stone work above the outer entrance to the porch is another inscription—

"Hac non cede viâ, nisi dicas, Ave Maria."

Fox no doubt long before 1499, by his contributions encouraged building in his Dioceses, and at Oxford and Cambridge, but his first personal interference seems to have been at Durham, where his sense of proportion, one of the greatest excellencies of good architecture, produced the work which Sir Thomas Darcy admired,† and the best taste of our times approves. It was at Winchester, again, that he, as Bishop, during his beloved King's life, constantly exerted his architectural skill.

* Bacon, Hen. VII. Ed. 1621, p. 147. † *Supra*, p. 52.

The next work to the roof of the choir of the cathedral there which Fox undertook was the building the noble stone side aisles to the choir, with stone roofs of liern work, taking down the Norman aisles. The frequent introduction of the pelican as an ornament shows that it was his building.

It is probable that these aisles were completed before he began his glorious Chantry Chapel.

The Chantry has three divisions. The entrance division is marked only by its floor being a step lower than the floor of the other two divisions, which are separated by the altar and reredos above it; on the right side of the altar is the doorway leading to the third division, which is a recess behind the altar.

This chantry is enriched with every form of religious embellishment, and specially with figures of the pelican in every possible attitude. It was as a badge that Fox adopted this device rather than as an armorial bearing, with the feeling expressed by Withers—

> "Look here and mark this kind Pelican—
> "And when this Holy Emblem thou shall see,
> "Lift up thy soul to Him who died for thee!"

The recess behind the altar from the hours of devotion he spent there, when in later years blind to this world's sights, he was led into this retreat, was called "Fox's Study." Over the altar may yet be traced the words,* *O convivium Sacrum, in quo Christus sumitur.*

The roof of this chantry was probably finished about 1509–13.

* Almost Dr. Doddridge's—

> "Hail, sacred Feast, which Jesus makes,
> Rich banquet of His Flesh and Blood!"

BISHOP OF WINCHESTER (*temp. Henry VIII.*).

Bishop Fox, on the new King's accession, retained to the full the position and power he held with the late monarch. "The son had never the least pique or difference or jealousy with the King his father, which might give occasion of altering Court or Council upon the change, but all things passed in a still."*

Fox took a forward part in the Privy Council on advising the young King as to his marrying the Princess Dowager of Wales. Fox, in urging the Privy Council to agree to the marriage refers to the peculiar circumstances in relation to that between Arthur and Katharine, and the power of the Pope to dispense with the technical objection to the marriage of a brother with a woman who had been only formally married to his deceased brother. That this was the character of the union with Arthur no reasonable person can have a doubt,† and the speech of Fox to the Council, as reported by Polydore Vergil, stated this truth.

Archbishop Warham in this Council opposed the actual marriage, as he had opposed the contract of June, 1503, but Fox's opinion was supported by the young King, who stated that his father on his death-bed charged him, among other good counsels, to fulfil the old treaty with Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain by taking their daughter Katharine in marriage.‡

Fox trained as a Canonist, the very reason of the existence of the Canonists being the supreme authority of the Papal Decrees, the foundation of the Faculty of Decrees or Canon Law in every University in Europe—Fox, we say, a Doctor of Decrees, laid very

* Bacon, Hen. VIII.

† Dean Hook's Life of Abp. Warham.

‡ Letter 27th June, 1509, from Henry VIII. to Margaret of Savoy.

great stress upon the power of the Pope and the efficacy of the Bull of 1504, but Fox was also remarkable for his strong common sense, and he insists upon the ruling fact that the marriage between Arthur and Katharine had been formal only.

The young King found Fox the leading member of the Privy Council, not so much from his high office as Lord Privy Seal, as from the great respect that had been paid by the late King to his opinion. Henry VIII., therefore, followed his father's practice in taking counsel with Fox and adopting his advice, so that the Venetian Minister calls him at this time "*alter rex.*" Great events followed fast on the death of Henry VII. The young King married on the 3rd June, and he and his Queen were crowned on St. John Baptist's Day following in Westminster Abbey.

The Lady Margaret, the King's grandmother, is stated to have approved of the marriage between the King and Katharine. On the day of their coronation she is described as the late Countess of Richmond,* and Fox, Bishop Fisher, and her other executors were on the 29th of June taking measures for executing her will.

About this time, the question of Bona Notabilia between the Archbishop of Canterbury and his suffragans was agitated by Bishop Fox, of which movement Archbishop Parker gives the following account:—†

"Fox being much in favour with the new King, and together with great wealth and influence combining an innate loftiness of spirit, could not patiently brook the Archbishop's prerogative. Previously to the commencement of any legal process the parties had an interview, when the Archbishop having shown his claim to be founded in prescription of more than 300 years, added with

* Her executors' accounts are taken from St. John Baptist's Day. See Brewer, vol. ii., No. 1297.

† De Antiquitate Britannicæ Ecclesiæ. Warham.

some warmth that he would not suffer the rights of the Church of Canterbury to be infringed by the pertinacity of the Bishop of Winchester. This provoked Fox to make that memorable reply, 'that if Canterbury had the higher rack, Winchester had the deeper manger.' Fitzjames, Bishop of London, Smith, Bishop of Lincoln, and his friend Hugh Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, joined with Fox in the plea at the Court of Rome against the Archbishop; the Pope issued a citation against the Archbishop, which Fox put into the hands of William Paulet, then steward of his lands, to execute. But the delays of the Roman Curia induced the Bishops to prevail upon his Holiness to refer the matter to the King's arbitration, and he, young as he was, determined the controversy."

In 1509 (Christmas Eve), the scholars of Pembroke Hall wrote to the Bishop, their Master, to say that they had carefully consulted how they might make a return to him for his goodwill in transacting their affairs, and that they had resolved to say masses four times a year for his safety during his life and for his soul after his death.*

Fox's friends the Venetians, on the accession of Henry VIII., were sore distressed by the League of Cambray and its consequences. Louis XII., as the warrior of the League, gained a great victory over the Venetians on the 14th May, 1509, and the Republic was stripped of all its mainland territories.

Henry VIII. in his earliest letters† to his father-in-law, Ferdinand, enlarges upon the necessity of befriending Venice. "Venice," says the King, "forms a wall against the Turks and infidels," and he begged Ferdinand to receive Venice into his protection, as "Venice is an ally of England from time im-

* Vet. Reg. Aul. Pem., p. 9-20.

† R. P., Spanish, vol. ii., p. 23, 1st. Nov., 1509.

memorial." It is clear that the young King was animated by the feelings of Bishop Fox, "the warm friend of Venice." But Fox was not to be turned aside from a more pressing object, the renewal with Louis XII. of the Treaty of Etaples (Fox's own work), and, much as he desired to accomplish for Venice, yet he steadily insisted on Louis carrying out that treaty, and completing the payments stipulated for by it.

The Spanish Ambassador, Caroz, May 1510, writes Ferdinand how Bishop Fox proceeded: "The Bishop of Winchester is Privy Seal. On speaking the first time to the King about the affairs of the King of France, and asking him what his intentions were in case the King of France should entirely destroy the Venetians, the King told him to confer on that subject with Bishop Fox. The Bishop on his part declared that the affair was a difficult one, and that he would give his answer after the Feast of Easter." This conversation must have been in the winter of 1509–10.

On March 23rd, 1510, Fox, with the Earl of Surrey and Bishop Routhall (the King's Secretary, appointed Bishop of Durham June 12th, 1509), concluded at London a renewal of the Treaty of Etaples with Louis XII.; in this renewed treaty Louis agrees to pay the arrears then due of the 745,000 crowns of gold payable under the Etaples Treaty (*supra*, p. 30) by half-yearly instalments of 25,000 crowns each.*

The Spanish Ambassador continues his letter: "Easter has passed away, but the Bishop has not given his answer, nor has he spoke a single word more to him about Venice."

Bishop Fox, however, whilst treating with France, satisfied Badoer, the Venetian Ambassador, about his honest exertions in favour of Venice. Badoer writes: "The Bishop of Winchester does his utmost to bring matters to a good end for us," and tells

* Rymer's Fœd O. xiii., 270.

the Signory what Fox said to him: "Let the year glide by. The Signory has a powerful army. The Pope is with us and with her." Fox was right, Julius II. soon withdrew from the League of Cambray, and formed in 1511 another league, called the Holy League, with the Venetians, the Swiss, and Ferdinand, and the Venetians recovered much of their territory.

At the date 29th May, 1510, "all business affairs are in the hands of the Bishop of Winchester and the King's Secretary, the Bishop of Durham."

In 1511, Andrew Barton, who had letters of reprisal against the Portuguese from the King of Scotland, detained and searched English merchantmen under the pretence that they had Portuguese goods on board. The King at Leicester, in June, authorized Lord Surrey to fit out men-of-war—Surrey had said that "the narrow seas should not be so infested whilst he had an estate that could furnish a ship, or a son who was able to command it;" his sons, Thomas Lord Howard, his heir, and Sir Edward Howard, afterwards Lord High Admiral, commanded two ships fitted out by the Earl. They took Barton's ship in an engagement in which he was killed, and brought the vessel to Blackwall on 2nd August, 1511; the Scotch sailors were sent to York Place at Charing Cross, and there remained at the King's charge. The chronicler, Hall, shall tell the rest: "After this the King sent the Bishop of Winchester and certain of his Counsaile to the Archbishop of York's Place, where the Scottes were prisoners; and there the Bishop rehersed to them wher as peace was yet between England and Scotland that they contrary to that, as theves and pirates, had robbed the King's subjects within his streams, wherefore they had deserved to die by the Law and to be hanged at the Low Water Mark. Then said the Scots, we knowledge our offence, and ask mercy and not the Law. Then a priest, which was also a prisoner, said, my Lords we

appeal from the King's justice to his mercy. Then the Bishop asked him if he were authorized by them to say so, and they cried all 'Yea, yea.' Then said he, 'Ye shall find the King's mercy above his justice. For wher you were dead by the Law, yet by his mercy he will revive you, wherefore ye shall depart out of this realm within xx days upon pain of death, if you be found after the xxth day, and pray for the King,' and so they passed out of the Country."

Fox was at this time in the receipt of a large income, and by means of his position and wealth able, and, from his love of learning, most willing, to encourage learned men. Ammonius, the Latin Secretary of Henry VIII., and the constant correspondent of Erasmus, writes to Erasmus in November, 1511, saying that "the Bishop of Durham (Routhall) promises to exert himself for Erasmus. The Bishop of Winchester speaks less openly, but more friendly. He thought Erasmus had a living, and bade Erasmus remind him of it." The same overpowering quantity of business which the Dean of Wells reported in 1506, as then done by Fox for Henry VII., is referred to by Ammonius as being done for Henry VIII. He tells Erasmus* in a later letter that Winchester was well disposed, but so much occupied he can scarcely attend to any other business than his own.

Wolsey was made Almoner to the young King on his accession, and in November, 1510, a Privy Councillor; in February, 1511, Registrar of the Order of the Garter. These favours are attributed by his biographers to the good offices of Bishop Fox.

The Holy League was joined by King Henry in February, 1512, a step quite in harmony with Fox's views on Italian politics. The war proceeded. The Battle of Ravenna in April, 1512, was a

* Erasmus, Ep. vii, 10.

great victory for France, but it cost her the young and heroic general, Gaston de Foix.

The relations between Henry VIII. and his brother-in-law, James of Scotland, were strained; although Fox had dealt kindly with Barton's sailors, yet James had by a herald demanded satisfaction at the insult on the Scottish flag by the capture of Barton's ship by the Howards. In July, 1512, Henry, under the pacific counsels of Fox, wrote to his brother-in-law a reasonable and conciliatory letter, which was drafted by Fox.

Fox's efforts in favour of peace with Scotland were strongly supported by Wolsey, now high in Royal favour. They were discouraged by the Howards, Lord Surrey, and his son, Lord Thomas Howard.

Wolsey was extremely anxious to keep Fox in attendance upon the King's councils; Dr. Brewer says, "It is only with the strongest arguments that Wolsey can prevail on him (Fox) to give his attendance at the Court and occupy his seat at the Council Table. We see in the correspondence between them Fox's rooted disinclination to a life of Diplomacy." In September, 1512, Wolsey writes from Windsor to Fox, entreating him to repair to Court. He says, "Earl Surrey, the Lord Treasurer, being discountenanced by the King, had left the Court," and adds "that it would be a good thing if he were ousted from his lodging."

The influence of the Howards seems rather to have been through Thomas Howard than through his father, Lord Surrey. "Mr. Howard," says Wolsey, "urges the King against the Scots, by whose wanton means His Grace spendeth much money, and is more disposed to war than peace. Your presence shall be necessary to repress this appetite." Fox seems to have yielded to the solicitation.

On the 4th November, 1512, Parliament assembled, and granted a supply for the war against France, and the preparations for it went on during the winter. Fox always supported the Italian cause against the French, and was not on this occasion backward to promote the war in favour of the Pope, Italy, and the Holy League. It was arranged in April that Fox should go with the King on the invasion of France. He took his household with him, and a large company of soldiers. Hall says, "Sir William Compton with the retinue of the Bishop of Winchester, and Master Wolsey, the King's Almoner, to the number of Eight Hundred, was in manner of a rear-ward."*

The slowness of the naval preparations had led to the loss of the Lord High Admiral, Sir Edward Howard, whose impetuous and impatient gallantry drove him with two galleys on 25th April to attack six French galleys at Conquet, secured behind batteries, and who was pushed overboard from the French Admiral's galley which he had boarded.

The utmost vigour was required in equipping the fleet, and Fox goes down to Portsmouth early in May to assist the outfit of the ships; he then passes to Southampton on the same service, and advises the King to visit Portsmouth secretly to see how things are going on.

Things were come to that pass that on the 21st May he writes to Wolsey ("his Brother, the King's Almoner") from Southampton, showing energy and zeal enough for a commander-in-chief, saying in reference to the want of empty pipes for the beer,† "I fear the Pursers will deserve hanging for the matter, I pray God

* Chronicles, Ed. 1809, Hen. VIII., p. 540.

† Dr. Brewer says, Introd., vol. iii, p. 216 (*n*, 1), "A gallon of beer was the daily allowance to every soldier and sailor." Hume says it was a maxim of Sir Edward Howard's that no Admiral was good for anything, that was not brave even to a degree of madness.

send us with speed and soon deliver you of your outrageous charge and labour, and else you shall have a cold stomach, little sleep, pale visage and a thin belly, *cum pari ejectione.*"

Wolsey's zeal may be gathered from a letter of June, 1513, which Fox writes to him. "Brother Master Almoner, Yesternight in my bed and in sleep, after ten of the clock, I received your letter."

On 30th June, 1513, the King and Fox were at Calais, but the Bishop now suffered the consequences of his taking the field in person, and was much hurt in August by the kick of his mule; for some days he could neither sit nor stand; during his illness the English won the "Battle of Spurs" and besieged Terouenne.

Pope Julius died in February, Leo X. succeeded on 11th March, and at first strongly supported the Holy League; Fox reported in May that Ferdinand of Arragon had made a year's truce with France, and that he heard that the Emperor Maximilian would dance the same dance; whilst Fox was ill in bed, Maximilian came to Henry's camp, served under his colours, wearing the Cross of St. George and a party-coloured Rose, the usual cognizance of the English. The Venetians had signed a treaty with France on the 24th March, on the other hand the French had been driven out of Italy by the victory of Novarra on the 6th of June. James IV. sent over his principal herald to the camp of King Henry before Terouenne, summoning him to abstain from aggressions against James' ally, the King of France, and without waiting for an answer, entered England with a Royal army on the 22nd August; Norham Castle which had been so valiantly defended by Fox, was taken after a siege of five days; neglect or treachery in the defenders seems to have produced this misfortune.

The Battle of Flodden had on the 9th September not only

defeated but destroyed the King and the leaders of the Scottish nation; the battle had been fought in defence of England, and was forced upon Lord Surrey. Routhal, Bishop of Durham, sends the particulars of the victory to Wolsey, and begs him to show the letter to the Lord Privy Seal.

The Holy League was finally broken up by the Pope, Leo X. making a treaty with Louis XII. on the 6th October, 1513. A formal treaty was indeed signed at Lisle,* on the 15th October, by Bishop Fox and Lord Dorset on the part of King Henry with Maximilian against France, but Louis had made peace with the Venetians and the Pope, and recrossed the Alps, and by the end of October King Henry and the bulk of his army had returned to England.

Fox's chantry chapel was undoubtedly completed as to its structure by the time the King sailed for France on this expedition. The centre boss of the internal roof has on it the Royal Arms of England with the dragon on the dexter and the greyhound on the sinister side. These are the arms of Henry VII. The same supporters were at first continued by Henry VIII., and the change of supporters, by having a crowned lion on the dexter and the dragon on the smister side was introduced by him when he went in the "Royal Harry" to Calais on the 30th June, 1513.

The registers of Bishop Fox's Episcopal Rule in Exeter, Bath and Wells, and Durham contain no record of proceedings against heretics. The register of his Winchester episcopate relate such proceedings only in three cases; one case in 1507, before the Vicar-General, in Southwark, which was, as Fox says,† in the Archdeacon's

* Rymer, O. xiii, 380.

† Letter to Wolsey, R. P. Hen. VIII., No. 3805. The Archdeacon of Surrey, in 1507, was Matthew Lang, Bishop of Gurk, principal secretary to Maximilian, and the

jurisdiction; and was followed by abjuration and absolution; one case heard at Malden in Surrey, before the Vicar-General, against Thomas Denys on the 19th February 1513; Denys was sentenced to be burnt in the market place of Kingston. Philip Braban was apparently a confederate, and was ordered to bear a faggot at the burning, and afterwards the representation of a faggot on his dress. Two others on the 5th March were subjected to the like punishment with Philip Braban. The only case recorded as being heard before the Bishop himself is the proceeding in the parish church of Farnham against four persons, and wives of three of them, and abjuration of the persons charged, and absolution by the Bishop himself.*

We cannot avoid supposing that this single instance of the carrying out the extreme penalty, so alien to the temper and tone of Bishop Fox, may be attributed to his Vicar-General rather than to himself. If the horrid punishment was executed in July, 1513, Fox was actually in the camp before Terouenne at the time, and if before that month, he was probably at Southampton or Portsmouth and engrossed in the work of a Diplomatist and Minister at War.

It was at the time that he was engaged in performing the duties of War Minister that Bishop Fox commenced the foundation of what eventually became Corpus Christi College at Oxford.

He appears, after coming to the See of Winchester, to have been in the habit of giving exhibitions or allowances to poor scholars at the University of Oxford, placing them under the tuition of Resident Members of Baliol, New and Magdalen

personage to whom Wolsey was sent. This obligation to bear the brand of heresy was removed in Braban's case on the 8th July, 1513. Reg. Fox, Winton III., 69.

* Reg. Fox, Winton III., 73.

Colleges, and under the general charge of his early friend, John Claymold, President of Magdalen.

Fox was apparently credited by the Scholars of Pembroke Hall, Cambridge (*supra*, p. 78), with the intention in 1507 of founding a new College. The founding of Brasennose in 1509 by Bishop Smith of Lincoln, with the help of Sir Richard Sutton, must have quickened Fox's zeal in this direction. The successor of William of Wykeham and William of Waynflete must have been kept wakeful, by the colleges, New and Magdalen, the trophies of their Victories of Peace, until he had become a Founder.

He was at first desirous of founding a college which should be partly after the pattern of Gloucester Hall, Durham College, and Canterbury College, respectively founded at Oxford for student monks of the monasteries of Gloucester, Durham, and Canterbury; and partly after the pattern of the later foundations of Wykeham, Waynflete, and Smith.

His first plan was a college for a warden, eight novices from his own Cathedral Priory of St. Swithin's at Winchester, and secular scholars. The scheme was more in accordance with the age than making the college a nursing place for monks exclusively.

He began to build his college on certain parcels of land at Oxford, near Merton College, before August, 1512.

It was not without disturbance that the work was begun, and the source of trouble was the jealousy of Bishop Smith's rival college of Brasen Nose Hall. In August, 1512, an undergraduate of that foundation was committed to prison for an assault on a workman of Bishop Fox; and Formby, the principal of Brasen Nose, was found in a recognizance, some time after, to keep the peace towards William Vertue and William Est (Freemasons)

and Humphrey Coke (Carpenter), Masters of the Works of the Bishop of Winchester's new college near Merton.

In March, 1513, he obtained letters patent for carrying out his first plan, and authority to give to Winchester Priory 100*l.* a-year for the purpose.

But the scheme of making any provision for student monks was not the temper of his fellow minister, Wolsey, who, as soon as he was elected Bishop of Lincoln, to encourage secular foundations, conveyed lands to John Claymond, as an additional endowment to Magdalen College.*

Wolsey was Bishop of Lincoln for six months only. He told Fox that during that short period he had some knowledge of iniquities among the clergy, like those which Fox discovered when he confined himself to his episcopal duties; and the idea of Fox making his college in any way a foundation for student monks must have been distasteful to Wolsey.

Bishop Oldham agreed to be a benefactor, conditionally on leaving out the provision for monks, saying as reported by Holinshed,† "Monks, whose end and fall we ourselves may live to see. No, no, my Lord, it is more meet a great deal that we should have care to provide for the increase of learning, and for such as, by their learning, shall do good to the Church and Commonwealth;" and he supported his opinions by a gift of 6,000 marks (in our money 24,000*l.*) towards the buildings of the house.

Fox had probably no other architect than the freemasons, the masters of his works. The designs were very likely his own, the details and working plans being left to them. The quadrangle contains the chapel, hall, and library; it remains externally in its original state, except that, according to Ayliffe,‡ it was not

* 15th Feb., 1514. † Holinshed, Hen. VIII. Sub. Ann, 1518.
‡ Ayliffe, 1714.

adorned with battlements and pinnacles until the time of James I. The hall is fifty feet in length by twenty-five in breadth.* The library has books presented by the founder, Bishop Oldham, and by John Claymond.

In his charter, dated at Wolvesey, 1st March, 1516, Fox dedicated his college to the honour of God Almighty, the Most Holy Body of Christ, and also of St. Peter and St. Paul, St. Andrew, St. Cuthbert, and St. Swithin, the patron saints of his four bishopries, Exeter, Wells, Durham, and Winchester. He appointed John Claymond, with whom he had been intimately acquainted thirty years, President, and names various scholars and fellows. He took (26th November, 1516), conditionally on the surrender of the letters patent of 1513, a licence from the Crown to found a perpetual college for the learning of the sciences of Divinity, Philosophy, and Good Arts, for one president and thirty scholars, graduate or non-graduate, more or less, according to the faculties of the place; and that he might endow the college with £350 (in our money £4,200) yearly.

The chapel was completed and divine service began to be solemnized there on the 20th January, 1517.

By his statutes Fox appointed lecturers to lecture in hall or in some public place publicly; one for Humanity, one for Greek, the third for Divinity, and named the Latin and Greek authors who were to be the subject of the public lectures; providing also for private lectures on any Greek and Latin authors to such members of the household of the college as wish to hear them, "voluntary fireside-lectures" as they have been called.

Fox was of large views as to the persons who were to be the

* The Hall was used in 1518 or 1519. When Wolsey founded his lectures at Oxford, Erasmus read certain lectures in the public refectory of Corpus Christi College. Wood, I, 198.

lecturers as well as to those to whom they were to be delivered: not only were the lectures to be public for the benefit of any members of the University, but he also with a singular faith in the comity of Universities, provided that if no person in his college was competent to lecture, or if competent, yet if a stranger be found much more learned in the judgment of the electors, he is to be proposed to the office, provided only he is born in England, Greece, or Italy beyond the Po.*

The details of the statutes are familiar to students of college history at Oxford; they are elaborate and specific. The encouragement of the New Learning, the study of Greek, was the portion of them which attracted most attention at the time of their being promulgated, and is now the chief object of general interest. Those whom we have found associated with Bishop Fox, Dean Selling, Dean Gunthorpe, and Bishop Fisher, were not only striving to introduce the study, but had studied it themselves—Selling and Gunthorpe in Italy. The provision for the new learning made by Fox won the praise of Erasmus and the imitation of Wolsey.

Those who loved Fox, those who lived with him, assisted in the work; not only did Oldham give his six thousand marks, but William Frost, Steward of the Diocese of Winchester, gave an estate at Maple Durwell for the endowment of the college, subject to the life interest of himself and his wife.

Anthony Wood says that Fox proceeded with the buildings which he had begun, the which had the foundation at first been equal to his second thoughts, would have been larger, but being begun, it could not well be altered, which in all probability was the reason why he enlarged the buildings afterwards by adding the cloister-chambers. There is in the library of the college

* Does this mean north or south of the Po?

a manuscript containing some of the expenses of the building; and it appears from Hearne's examination of it that the whole expense there stated was £697 17*s.* 8*d.* (with 12 as a multiplier £8,400), but this could hardly have been the whole expense even of the quadrangle.

And now Fox began to slacken in his attendance upon the King, and to leave affairs to Wolsey alone.

Dr. Brewer's remarks are instructive: "Fox was always anxious to get away. He felt it inconsistent with his duties as a Bishop to be immersed in Politics, and he laments it to Wolsey. It must also be remembered that Fox belonged to that old order of things, when monastic seclusion, to men of his devout turn, and total retirement from secular employments, seemed the only Life that deserved the name of Religious. Great was the fascination exercised by Henry VII. and Henry VIII. over the minds of such men, till traces of compunction came, when the total alienation of thought and action from their duties as spiritual men became an intolerable burden. So far from driving Fox from the Court, it is the utmost that Wolsey can do to bring him there; and when he succeeds, it is evidently more out of compassion for Wolsey's incredible labours than his own inclinations."

Down to Holy Cross Day, 1514, Fox was constantly working with Wolsey; the two were regarded by the Pope and all foreign courts as the real ministers of England. The next day (15th September) the Pope signed the Bull for the translation of Wolsey from Lincoln to York, vacant by the death of Cardinal Bainbridge.

In April, 1515, the King's Latin Secretary and the Pope still treat Wolsey and Fox as the Ministers of Henry, and the Pope gave Fox power to recall the Legatine authority in Scotland of the Archbishop of St. Andrews. The Pope in May hopes the King

will join the Italian League against Francis I., and urges Wolsey and Fox to help his Holiness in persuading the King to do so. Fox writes from Esher on 20th July to Wolsey in his vigorous style about the unruly doings of the canons of St. Augustine's, Bristol, in not obeying the letters of leave to elect, and begs Wolsey to issue a commission to order the election, putting out "the three young fools" who sue for voices in it, though they be not *in sacris.* On September 7th Wolsey is made Cardinal; in October and November Fox is still linked with Wolsey by everybody,* but the end of this state of things was coming.

Archbishop Warham resigned the Great Seal, and Wolsey received it on 22nd December, 1515, in a chamber of Westminster Palace; Fox was not present; besides a clerk, no one was there but the King, Wolsey, and Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk, whom Henry treated like a brother.

The King went to Eltham, and was there till the 5th January, 1516, when Fox was in London, for that day the Venetian Ambassador writes that he had seen Fox, Bishop of Winchester, "A Lord of extreme authority and goodness."†

The exact time when Fox resigned the Privy Seal does not appear; as he speaks in his letter of the 23rd April about having the Royal licence to be occupied in his Cure, it is probable that he had in January, while the Court was at Eltham, expressed to the King his desire to resign the office, which he had held for thirty years. He must have been fully occupied down to the 1st March with the charter to his college of that date; and on this 23rd April wrote to the Cardinal Chancellor the letter we have referred to:—

* On the 18th Nov., 1515, Fox and the Archbishop of Canterbury, with no cross before them, followed Wolsey in his inaugural Cardinal's procession, preceded by his cross.

† R.P. 7 Hen. VIII., No. 1306, vol. ii, p. 378.

"Has heard from William Purde that Wolsey had asked for him and wants to know when he will be at Court. Had he not good impediment and the King's licence to be occupied in his Cure, to make satisfaction for 28 years' negligence, he would be very blameable and unkind, considering Wolsey's goodness to him in times past. Had never greater will to serve the King's father than the King himself, especially since Wolsey's great charge, 'perceiving better, straighter, and speedier ways of justice, and more diligence and labour for the King's right, duties and profits to be in you, than ever I see in times past in any other, and that I myself had more ease in attendance upon you in the said matters than ever I had before.' Thinks Wolsey would not have him serve the world to the damnation of his soul and other souls committed to him; his absence is not to hunt or hawk, nor for quietness of his mind, which is troubled night and day with other men's iniquities more than he dare write, of which Wolsey told him he had some knowledge when he was Bishop of Lincoln. Considers that Wolsey has as much labour of body, and business of mind, as ever any man had, and with less help. If the Swiss and the Emperor speed well, sees no great occasion for disquiet. 'And I require you, and heartily pray you, lay apart all such business from 6 of the clock in the evening forward; which if ye will use it, shall after your intolerable labours greatly refresh you, And, good my Lord, when the term is done, keep the Council with the King's grace wheresoever he be.' Winchester, 23rd April, To my Lord Cardinal of York."*

On the 18th May the King being at Greenwich, the Privy Seal was given to Routhal, Bishop of Durham. The withdrawal of Fox from the Court is well known in London in June, "My lord

* This is according to Dr. Brewer's Abstract, which we shall generally adopt, R.P. Hen. VIII., vol. ii, p. 1, No. 1814.

of Winchester comes not here, writes Lord Shrewsbury's steward to his lord.*

The Treaty of Noyon (13th August, 1516) between France and Charles V., who had succeeded his father Ferdinand, opened the prospect of general peace; still Maximilian's Germans carried on a merciless raid in the Veronese March. The position of affairs seems to have brought up Fox to Court again, and on the 18th of November the Venetian Ambassador writes that Winchester, who has hitherto held aloof, has returned to Court and graciously received the Ambassador, and explained that the Treaty of London, which was to confirm the Noyon Treaty, was defensive only, and that neither Henry nor the Catholic King wanted to engage in war;† Maximilian acceded to the Treaty of Noyon in December; and Venice recovered the possessions she had lost by the effects of the League of Cambray.

On the 10th of February, 1517, the Venetian Ambassador writes, as to the capture of Verona, "that he believes the Court is very much vexed, except the Bishop of Winchester, who has always been opposed to the Emperor."‡

In January, 1517, Bishop Fox published, for the benefit of the nuns and novices in his diocese, a translation into English of the Rule of St. Benedict, now so very rare a black-letter book that we think the work and character of Bishop Fox well illustrated by reprinting the preface.

"Forasmuch as every person oughte to knowe the thyng that he is bounde to kepe or accomplish, and ignorance of the thynge that he is bound to do cannot nor may not excuse him, and for so muche also as the reding of the thynge that a person is bounde to

* 8th June, 1516, No. 2018.
† 18th November, 1516, No. 2559.
‡ No. 2896.

do and execute except he understande it is to the executing thereof no thyng valuable but only thyng futile, travail in vayne and time lost, We therefore, Richarde by the permission and sufferance of our Lord God, Bisshope of Winchester, revolving in our mind that certaine devoute and religious women being within our Diocese and under our pastoral charge and care, have not only professed them to the observance of the Rule of the Holy Cōfessoure Seinte Benet, but also be bounde to rede lerne and understande the same when they be novices and before they be professed. And also after their profession they should not onely in them selfe kepe observe execute and practise the sayde rule but also teche other their sisters the same, and so moche that for the same intent they daily rede and cause to be rede some pte of the sayd rule by one of the sayd sisters amonges the selfe as well in their Chapiter Howse after the redīge of the Martyrologe as some tyme in their Fraitur in tyme of refectōs and collaciōs, at the which reding is always don ī the latin toge whereof they have no knowledge nor understandinge but be utterly ignorant of the same whereby they do not only lose their tyme but also renne into the evident danger and perill of the perdicion of their soules. We the sayd Bischope knowing and considering the premisses and rememberyng that we may not without like peryll of our sowle suffer the sayd religious wemen of whose sowles we have the cure to continue in their sayde blindnesse and ignorance of the sayd Rule to the knowledge and observance whereof they be professed and specially to thentent that the yonge Novices may first knowe and understande the sayde Rule before they professe them to it, so that none of them shall nowe afterward probably say that she wyste not what she professed, as we knowe by experience that some of them have sayd in tyme passed. For these causes at thinstant requeste of our ryght dere and welbeloved daughters in

oure Lorde Jhu, The Abbasses of the Monasteries of Rumsay Wharwel Seynt Maries within the Citie of Winchester and the Prioresses of Wintnay, our right religious diocesans, we have translated the sayde rule unto our moders tonge, comune playne rounde Englishe easy and redy to be understande by the sayde devoute religiouse women. And by cause we woulde not that there should be any lacke amongis them of the bokis of this sayd translation we have therefore above and beyonde certayne bokes thereof which we have yeven to the sayde Monasteris caused it to be emprinted by our welbeloved Richard Pynson of London printer the XXII day of the monethe of January the yere of oure Lorde MCCCCCXVI and the XVIII yeare of the Reyne of our Soverayne lorde Kynge Henry the VIII. and of our translation the XVI."

On the 28th of June, 1517, the statutes of his college were read, and then approved of by Bishop Fox, in the Church or Chapel of St. Cross, in the presence of clerical and laical people.

Fox did not encourage the new learning only by his founding the lectures in Greek to his college. "Lately," writes Sir Thomas More from London to Erasmus on 15th December, 1517, "in a large concourse of people, the Bishop of Winchester affirmed that your version of the New Testament was worth more to him than ten commentaries." This was the New Testament published for the first time in Greek with a new Latin translation. It was received with unprecedented enthusiasm. Men struggled earnestly to procure it and read it eagerly; it was in every hand and beloved.*

In May, 1517, Bishop Fox, and with him Sir Thomas More, William Paulet, and William Frost, are put into the Commission for Hampshire for inquiring into the arable land converted into pasture since the Act 4 Henry VII. contrary to the statute of that

* Erasm., Ep. 557.

date; and the number of parks then enclosed and the land added to parks, and other violations of the Act. More had just published his "Utopia," and in it he had said, "Noblemen and Gentlemen and certain Abbots, Holy men of God forsooth, leave no ground for tillage. All their lands they convert into pasture. They raze the farm houses to the ground; they depopulate whole villages; nothing is left but the Church, and that is often turned into a sheep house; and if you had not lost ground enough by your forests, woods, and parks, these good and holy men turn all dwelling places, yea, all arable lands, into desolation and a wilderness."

In July Fox was in London, and the Treaty of London between the Emperor, the King of England, and the Prince of Castile, for the defence of the Church, which we have mentioned as being discussed in November, 1516, was confirmed. Fox on the 6th of July, 1517, settled the draft of it, and appended to the draft an important Latin note. By the 31st July he was at his diocese fifty miles off.*

Cardinal Adrian de Castello, the Bishop of Bath and Wells, had in 1514 been removed from the office of Pope's Collector in England at the King's instance, instigated by Wolsey, who had been promised the See. Castello was at Venice, and the Venetian Ambassador had sent his son to Fox with letters from the Council of Ten in favour of Castello.†

The Ambassador writes that his son had returned from the Bishop of Winchester; his audience was delayed because this Prelate likewise (as well as Wolsey)‡ had taken the "sweat." He had a generous welcome by Fox, who represented the matter of

* 31st July, 1513, No. 3544.

† 6th August, 1517, No. 3558.

‡ Wolsey had taken it for the fourth time. Ammonius had died of it in eight hours.

Castello's disgrace as desperate, saying "We have to deal with the Cardinal who is not only Cardinal but King, and no one in the Realm dare attempt aught in opposition to his interests."

Fox had written in February from St. Cross to Wolsey, thanking him for expediting the King's letter for the free election of the Abbess of Holy Cross, Wherwell, and, as the sisters had made a choice pleasant to God and true to the King, begs his favour of the bearer sent to obtain the Royal assent.*

Fox also tells Wolsey of the rumour of an army and navy in Normandy, "Will advertise him of further information. If war be intended against England, the Isle of Wight and Portsmouth are too feeble for defence, our manner is never to prepare for the war to (till) our enemies be right at our doors."

In June, 1518, King Henry went to Southampton to see the Venetian galleys, and then left Southampton for the Bishop of Winchester's palace† at Winchester, where he visited Fox for some days.

In October,‡ Bishop Fox writes to Wolsey, and thanks him for licence for non-attendance on the King this summer, "wherein your Grace did no less for me than if ye had delivered me of an inevitable danger of my life. No Englishman is gladder than he of this alliance with France. It is the best deed that ever was done in England, and, next to the King, the praise of it is due to Wolsey."

The Commission as to enclosure of arable land seems to have produced a finding upon inquisition against Bishop Fox himself, that he had made enclosures of arable land contrary to the statute. With respect to this charge in the same letter, "In conformity

* 19th Feb., 1518, No. 3752.
† No. 4232.
‡ 30th October, 1518, No. 4540.

with Wolsey's desire that the Bishop should, upon his honour, certify him by letters, in a case then before him in the Chancery, of his right touching such enclosures," Fox states "that before Michaelmas last he caused inquiries to be made by his Stewards and others, and they have certified that the Inquisitions found against the enclosures were untrue, and though the Bishop has not personally viewed the lands surmised to be enclosed, he believes the certificate correct." His steward, William Frost, "is a sad substantial and faithful man, well learned in the law." His surveyor, William Pounde, "being a man of one hundred pounde land."

Fox is at his palace in Southwark on 5th March, 1519. Henry Courtenay, Earl of Devon, dines with the Lord Chamberlain Worcester, "from thence to Lord Winchester at St. Mary Overey, and thence to my Lord Cardinal's at Westminster." The Earl was just of age, the son of Katherine, Queen Elizabeth's sister, and a great favourite of Bishop Fox.

Bishop Fox, as one of the executors of Henry VII. and of Lady Margaret, his mother, had much to do with the foundation of St. John's College, Cambridge, and the building of King's College Chapel there. His friend and co-executor of Lady Margaret, Bishop Fisher, being made in 1514 Chancellor of the University for life, very probably relieved him of some of the labour connected with St. John's. King Henry VIII. in November, 1515, directed that the painted glass windows of King's College Chapel were to be devised by the Bishop of Winchester, and these justly celebrated specimens of glass-painting owe their excellence to the taste and judgment of Bishop Fox.* The Bishop does not appear

* Among the MSS. at C.C.C. Oxford is a letter with the date 2 Kal. Oct., but not the year, from the King's College, Cambridge, to King Henry VIII., asking that Bishop Fox might be made Head of the College.

much in connection with Pembroke Hall. Bishop Langton gave by his will a legacy of £40 and a silver tablet to this college; with delay equal to modern times, the legacies are recovered by Bishop Fox in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury nine years after Langton's death. In May, 1519,* Fox resigned the Mastership of Pembroke, giving a handsome valedictory gift of hangings or tapestry, with the arms of Winchester Bishoprick and the pelican painted on them, which were kept in the college down to Bishop Wren's time.†

The opposition to the publication of the New Testament in Greek and Latin by Erasmus was led with intemperate zeal by Edward Lee, Dean of Colchester. Lee is forgotten, while the fame of Erasmus is familiar to all. Erasmus justly thought that the support of Bishop Fox would be of great value to him in his contest with Lee. In May, 1519, Erasmus wrote from Antwerp to Lord Mountjoy that he dearly loves Fox for the magnificent college he had founded, and also writes to Fox‡ to beg him to induce Lee to desist from spreading reports against Erasmus. Erasmus writes to Claymond in June in praise of Bishop Fox and his new college, founded for the cultivation of the three tongues. "Is glad to hear that the Bishop's benevolent design is countenanced by Wolsey, Campeggio, and the King; foretells the future eminence of the college; is glad to hear that Claymond has been selected from so many to be the new President. Believes the high character of Claymond will do much to win over those who are apt to assert that these new studies corrupt men, and are unfavourable to Christian piety. Has been induced to write from the praises bestowed upon Claymond by Tunstall, More, and Pace."

* Godwin (ed. Richardson), p. 235.

† Wren's MS. Hist. of Pembroke College, in Coll. Treasury.

‡ Antwerp. Erasmus to Fox, 27th June, 1519, No. 323.

The Bishop was at Windsor, 28th May, 1519,* assisting as prelate of the order in promulgating new statutes of the Garter. He soon returned to his diocese, and on 14th August, 1519,† writes from the monastery of Southwick to Wolsey :—" Received his letters by the bearer stating that the attendance to be given on him as in last Lent is to be prorogued. As Wolsey asks for advice, thinks next Lent a much more 'propice' time for such treaties, and in the meantime he can the better discover the resolution of religious persons in matters concerning their reformation. Considers also that to attend on him before the resolution would be unprofitable and perhaps not honourable."

Wolsey was now engaged in enlarging Hampton Court, a specimen of good ancient English brickwork, which still remains to show us that a building as stately as those of stone can be formed of brick, whilst we see how the lowlier material, by the mellowing influence of time, adds to the beauty of form the attractiveness of colour. Fox's Manor House of Esher, almost opposite to Hampton on the Surrey side of the river, was a convenient residence for one engaged in building operations at Hampton, and the Cardinal, it appears, had occupied Esher, with free consent of the Bishop. He adds to the letter to Wolsey, of the 14th August: " Would God that the poor lodging of Esher did content your Grace as much as it rejoices me that it can please you to use it. Use it always as often and as long as it shall please you, right as your own, and make it a cell to Hampton Court, as the King that dead is, whose soul God pardon, made Hampton Court and it cells to Richmond."

Arrangements were made in March, 1520, for the Bishop of Winchester to go to the Field of the Cloth of Gold, but Fox would

* Beltz, Garter, lxxii.
† No. 404.

not go.* In May, Erasmus wrote to him from Louvain, again requesting him to interpose to prevent Lee's invectives against him,† and Sir Thomas More, probably not without encouragement from Bishop Fox, wrote to Lee he deeply regretted Lee's dispute with Erasmus, and thought no good ever came of it. The Emperor, Charles V., landed on Saturday, the 26th May, at Dover. On hearing of his arrival, the King rode over from Canterbury in an hour, by torchlight. The next morning, Whitsunday, the 27th, both Sovereigns took horse for Canterbury, the more to solemnise the Feast of Pentecost; but specially to see the Queen of England, his aunt, was the intent of the Emperor.‡

Fox was with the Council in London, and probably its leading spirit, and writes to King Henry in France on 13th June, 1520, rejoicing at the events of the Emperor's visit to England, and the meeting with the French King, and telling the King that on Saturday last they (that is, at all events, the Duke of Norfolk and Fox) were at Richmond with the Princess Mary, "who lauded be Almighty God, is right merry, and in prosperous health and state, daily exercising herself in virtuous pastimes."§ He writes again on 8th July. Norfolk and Fox had now been on active duty almost since Bosworth Field, at which they both were five-and-thirty years before.

After the King and Queen had returned to London, Bishop Fox went down to his diocese, and in October from Farnham Castle issues process to ascertain whether certain benefices were donative; and establishes the fact of their being presentative.

* Fox was to have 56 servants. The Archbishop was to have 70 servants; Bishop of Durham, Lord Privy Seal, 47.

† On 2nd May, 1520. No. 827.

‡ Brewer, p. 345, R.P.

§ The Princess was not sent to be inspected by her first cousin at Dover. See Brewer, p. 341, R.P

On the 22nd December, 1520, the Saturday of the Four Seasons, the Bishop held his ordination in person in the Chapel (Lady) of the Cathedral Church of Winchester, and this same year, 1520, Fox held formal Visitations of New College and Magdalen College.

No one had more fully seen the evils of the ecclesiastical system in the church than Bishop Fox. What oppression was exercised by the network of courts and the army of officials over laymen, what licence to crime was involved in the privileges of clerics, is pointed out by Mr. Froude in his third chapter.* He thinks that the fullest intentions of Wolsey in the direction of reform are to be found in Fox's famous letter to the Cardinal of January, 1521. "Then," says Mr. Froude, "the time of reckoning arrived, the finger touched the hour, and the strokes of the great hammer rung out above the nation." Fox, indeed, from his own expression in this letter, "*oblatrans diu populus*," was according to this historian,† one of those who had ears to hear the growls of smothered anger, which for years had been audible in England. And now this New Year's tide of 1521 Fox at Marwell, writes this famous letter to Wolsey, so much dwelt upon, of which the abstract is:‡ "Received great consolation from Wolsey's last letters, stating that he had instituted, and appointed an early day to commence a reformation of the whole clergy. Has desired to see this day as Simeon desired to see the Messiah; and since he read Wolsey's letters, doubts not to see a more full reformation of the whole English hierarchy than he ever could hope for in this age. Has endeavoured to do within his own small jurisdiction

* Froude, History, ed. 3, 1862, vol. 1, pp. 131 (*n.*), 149 (*n.*).

† *Id.*, p. 225 (*n.*).

‡ Brewer, 2nd January, 1521, No. 1122. It is printed from the Latin original in Strype's Eec. Memoranda, vol. i. Appendix, No. 10, and in Wilkins' Concilia, vol. 2, p. 718. It is in Cotton MSS. Faustina, c. vii.

what Wolsey had resolved upon in both the provinces of England; but though he has given all his study to it for nearly three years, where he had to correct and punish, he found the clergy, and particularly (what he did not at first suspect) the monks, so depraved, so licentious, and corrupt, that he despaired of any perfect reformation, even in his own diocese. Has known by experience that whatever Wolsey undertakes he will do; and such is his skill in divine and human affairs, and his authority with King and Pope, of which the fame has spread over the world, that he will undoubtedly achieve by this reformation a fame greater than that of all preceding Legates. Marwell, *postridie calendas Januarias.*"

And now we think that the misfortune which afflicted the Bishop's latest years, that of total blindness, must have happened to him in this year 1521. We find no mention of the Bishop during this year, but in the next year on the last day of April, 1522, Fox writes a remarkable letter from Winchester to Wolsey, which is abstracted as follows:—*

"Has received his letter by Mr. Sandes, stating that the King by the advice of his Council, had resolved to send certain commissioners to survey the town and marches of Calais, and examine abuses, and requesting that Fox would come to the Court, as he has at sundry times taken travail in the said matters, and has some books on the subject. Since the King licensed him to remain in his church, after he had been so negligent for thirty years, that of his four cathedral churches he had never seen Exeter or Wells, "and innumerable souls whereof I never see the bodies, and specially since by his licence I left the keeping of his Privy Seal, and most specially since my last departing from your good Lordship and the Council, I have determined and, betwixt

* 30th April, 1522, No. 2207, R.P.

God and me, utterly renounced the meddling with worldly matters, specially concerning the war or anything to it appertaining (whereof, for the many intolerable enormities that I have seen ensue by the said war in time past, I have no little remorse in my conscience), thinking that if I did continual penance for it all the days of my life, though I should live twenty years longer than I may do, I could not yet make sufficient recompense therefor. And now, my good Lord, to be called to fortifications of town and places of war* or to any matter concerning the war, being of the age of seventy years and above, and looking daily to die, the which if I did, being in any such meddling of the war, I think I should die in despair. No marvel, my Lord, the premises considered, if this my present vocation for such matters trouble not a little my spirits. I fear that I shall not by reason thereof, be in such quietness that I shall dare say Mass these five or six days."

"He will be glad to serve the King in whatever may become so old a priest ;† but in these matters it becomes not him to meddle. Knows nothing at all about these fortifications; but before the siege of Boulogne, when his company, except Sir John Don and Sir John Turberville, had returned to England, they used to meet at Boulogne with the Lord Quardis in the time of Henry VII.; when Fox caused the sluice to be made at Calais, which, he thinks, would now have been a good haven, had it not been destroyed by Turberville. Has no books, and has never seen any,

* We are told by a letter from Lord Sandys, who wanted to raise 200 men, that my Lord of Winchester had 50 able men in readiness, the Abbot of Hyde and the Prior of St. Swithin's 40. R.P. Brewer, Henry VIII., 8th May, 1522.

† It was not simply through humility, but probably as claiming their highest privilege, that we find Bishops anciently styling themselves "Priests." Thus a letter of a Bishop of Durham to King Henry V. is subscribed "Your humble priest of Duresme," Cotton MS., Vesp. F. xiii, p. 29. So Bishop Fox, "Ricardus Exoniensis Presbyter," *sup.*, p. 21.

except such as are in the Council House at Calais. Hopes, therefor, he may be excused coming up. Has much business on hand, both of correction and justice. Visits his Cathedral once every fifteen days, and the Monastery of Hyde. If Calais is to be fortified, advises the rigging of the Navy should be repaired, and Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight be provided with Artillery, as they are the first places the enemy will look upon; and if they be Lords of the sea, Calais will be lost."

The language of this letter as to monks is explained by one or two circumstances which had occurred. On 29th February 1522 Bishop Fox a second time held a visitation of Hyde under Abbot Rumsey, and issued certain episcopal injunctions. Complaints were made of the junior monks indulging too much in long-bow archery on the Hyde meadows; and keeping late hours; sitting for long discussions, sometimes to the hour of eight in the evening, and even beyond it, instead of betaking themselves to bed immediately after supper according to the good wont of their predecessors. It was also alleged that their train of servants was now so numerous as to diminish the old almsgiving, long honourably characteristic of Hyde Abbey.* In this year (1522) Bishop Fox complained speaking of abuses at St. Swithin's, that in the Chapter House, "*collationes sive exhortationes*" were not made according to ancient and laudable use.†

Milner, in his History of Winchester, says that King Henry and Charles V. stayed at Winchester from 22nd June to 1st July in this year. They left Windsor on the 19th June, and the Emperor embarked at Southampton on the 1st July. They had intended to go by Farnham, but they lay at Fox's Manor House of

* R.P., Liber Monasterii de Hyda. Introd. lxiii.

† Dean Kitchin's Consuetudo of the Refectory of St. Swithin's, Winchester, p. 111.

Bishops Waltham on their road. This enabled the Emperor to hunt the hart on his way to Winchester,* where a quantity of Gascony and Rhenish wine was sent, and where they probably stayed at Wolvesey.

The Bishop's next works in the choir after the stone-roofed aisles to it, were, probably, the great screen behind the high altar; the stonework of the east window, including the outside panelling under it and the gable over it; and the open arched stone screen on the north and south sides of the choir. These were probably executed in the order here stated.

The great screen is a magnificent work, and must have occupied a considerable time. The east window has very good stonework; over it outside is the statue of Fox resting upon his pelican, under a canopy fixed on the east gable of the cathedral. The statue is required to make the eastern gable correspond with the western gable, where there was, and is, a statue of William of Wykeham, perhaps more ostentatious than the modest figure of Fox. It was probably between 1515, when he was employed by King Henry to design the painted glass of King's College Chapel,† and 1522, when he was blind, that Bishop Fox filled this east window with coloured glass. The plan on which the glass is arranged is the placing one figure only in each light. His arms and motto "*Est Deo gratia*" are introduced in it. The only part of the glass now in its original state, according to Mr. Winston ‡ consists of the two figures which occupy the two southernmost of the lower lights, and most of the tracery lights. Mr. Winston says "it is as nearly perfect as painted glass can be."

It is clear that the stonework of the east window and

* Rutland Papers, Camden Soc., p. 99.

† See Arch. Journal xii, pp. 152, 356.

‡ Proceedings Arch. Institute at Winchester.

the upper part of the great screen were designed after the elevation of the choir-roof,* and was the work of Bishop Fox.† Before the elevation, the great screen could not have been raised to its present height; the east window is made to correspond with that height, and the roof to the east of the window is lowered by a recess, on purpose to give light to it.

The cornice to the side screens has upon the face of it armorial bearings, initials, and mottoes, which indicate as plainly as the date that the last of Fox's erections were these side screens. It has not only the initials of Prior Silkstede, but those of Prior Brook who succeeded him in 1524. There also the initials W. F., with the coat of arms near them, indicate William Frost, the faithful steward of Bishop Fox, who contributed to this work, as he did to the foundation of Corpus Christi College; and the pomegranate, twice introduced, marks probably Fox's regard for Katharine of Arragon, gladly displayed when Charles V. came to Winchester in 1522. All these signs lead up to the date 1525, which the Cinque-cento frieze tells as plainly almost as the Arabic numerals.

On these side screens were placed by Fox the well-known mortuary chests; gilt and painted in quite an Italian style of art, their very position over the open arches of the screens seems suggested by a recollection of the tombs of the Scaligeri at Verona.

There is in the Lady Chapel, in which the Bishop sometimes held ordinations, excellent carved woodwork, which was probably inserted by him. The upright ends of the back seats have for finial ornaments a pelican and a fox. The pelican occurs also among the exquisite carving of the screen-work at the Chapel of

* "The screen was built with the clerestory," Dean Kitchin says in his pamphlet "The Great Screen."

† Cardinal Beaufort could have nothing to do with the great screen.

St. Cross, showing that he still exercised at Winchester the skill and taste in woodwork which he displayed in the Castle of Durham (*sup.*, p. 52).

After his publication of the statutes of his college, Bishop Fox still promoted its welfare by the appointment of additional fellows down to the year 1524, of whom the most celebrated name is Cardinal Pole, who was appointed fellow by the Bishop in 1523.*

Grammar schools were for many centuries before the sixteenth confined to monasteries, cathedrals, and guilds in towns; it was part of the piety of the founders and members of these institutions to add to them a grammar school, very much to educate youth for subsequent admission into their body, or to assist in the Divine Services performed by it. At the universities also colleges had schools connected with them where youths were prepared to enter the colleges.

Free grammar schools, where Latin was taught *gratis* to all willing to learn, were first established at the close of the fifteenth century. Perhaps the earliest was founded by that magnificent prelate William of Waynflete. After building Magdalen College and School, he determined, in 1484, to bestow the blessing upon his birthplace, Waynfleet in Lincolnshire, of a free grammar school. Two years before, the University of Oxford had encouraged the establishment of such schools by a statute enacting that if any one shall found a free grammar school (*in quibus docebitur grammatica gratis omnibus venire volentibus*) at

* "Pole received likewise during his stay here (Padua, 1523), a particular mark of regard from his own country; Dr. Fox, Bishop of Winchester, and one of the greatest personages of those times, having lately founded the College of Corpus Christi at Oxford, entered and made him Fellow of it." Phillips' Life of Cardinal Pole, i, 17.

Oxford, the master teaching therein shall be subject to no payment to the University.*

In 1510, Bishop Fox and Bishop Fisher, with others as executors of Lady Margaret, Countess of Richmond, established a schoolmaster at Wimborne, Dorset, to reside in a house set apart by the Dean and Chapter there for that purpose, and to teach grammar to all who came for instruction, according to the custom of the schools of Eton and Winchester, without any payments but what were appointed by the executors.†

Oldham had probably consulted Fox about the foundation of Oldham's Free Grammar School at Manchester.‡ Oldham died in 1519, having by his will given the residue of his property to Bishop Fox and his other executors, to apply to such pious purposes as they thought fit; and Fox afterwards seems to have desired to extend the blessing of free grammar schools to those places which had, in his mind, claims upon him. They were his birthplace, Ropesley, and Taunton, the head of his greatest manor, and the source of considerable revenues to his Bishopric of Winchester.

Bishop Fox first built the Taunton Grammar School within the precincts of his Castle of Taunton. The school-house, consisting of a hall or schoolroom§ and a schoolmaster's house, was completed in 1522.‖ By the pipe roll for the year 1523, preserved till 1828 at Winchester, containing an account of the rents and expenditure of the Bishop's Manor and Lordship of Taunton Dean,

* R.P. Mun. Acad. Anstey, i, 354.

† Her will is "frely teche grammar."

‡ Oldham's School was not actually founded till 1524.

§ The schoolroom is 60 feet long, 20½ feet wide, and 25 feet high to height of plaster ceiling.

‖ In Twyne's MSS. at Corpus Christi College, Oxford, vol. xi of the Collectanea, 197, 2nd paging, is a statement that "the Taunton School was founded A.D. 1522, as appears from the inscription."

the building of the school-house within the castle appears to have cost £226 5*s.* 10*d.*, in our money £2,712.

There is a large dormitory in the master's house over the lower rooms, which probably shows that the Bishop did not intend a mere day school, but that he desired to enable the master to take boarders.

It was Bishop Fox's practice to endow the foundations he planted for education with lands and possessions which he had purchased out of his savings, and not with the ecclesiastical property of which he was only the life-tenant. He would not offer that which cost him nothing to the service of God, and he deemed providing sound learning and religious education for the young a best service. This practice naturally occasioned some delay in his endowments. He had commenced building Corpus Christi College before he endowed it; we shall find that he endowed the Free Grammar School at Grantham only a day or two before he died, and although Harpsfield, who was present at his funeral, says of Taunton School, "*ludi-magistro de idoneo annuatim stipendio prosperit.*" yet no trace of an endowment by him of Taunton School can be found.

There was a shield on the school-house of Bishop Oldham's arms,* but this was either the mark of Fox's regard for him, or to indicate that some of Oldham's residue had been spent on it. A shield with the pelican is over the school door, with a mitre and garter motto.

In August, 1522, the Bishop was reported as having been

* Toulmin's Hist. of Taunton. Dr. Ingram (Oxford Colleges, vol. ii, Corpus Christi). "It is not generally known that Bishop Fox in conjunction with his friend Bishop Oldham, added considerably to the magnificence of Netley Abbey by rebuilding the roof of a transept there in a style resembling that of the Sanctuary at Winchester; his own arms and devices with those of Oldham being placed at the intersections of the groining."

dangerously ill. He recovered, and was able to write to Wolsey in February, 1523,* advising him what had been done on the borders in the late King's time, and stating, as we have mentioned before, that during the wars between Henry VII. and the Scots, he was for the great part with his household at Norham.

Fox was not disposed to yield to Wolsey's imperious proceedings, and his assumption of authority as Legate, overriding all other ecclesiastical power. Although blind, the Bishop attended Convocation in London in June, 1523, and with Fisher, Bishop of Rochester, energetically opposed Wolsey's proposed subsidy upon clerical incomes to be levied in five years.† The Convocation sat till the 14th August.

Fox seems to have, at this time, attended the Privy Council, and to have desired that Lord Surrey, who was in command on the Borders, should not burn green corn. Surrey writes to Wolsey that "he shall either bring the King's intended purpose to pass, to cause the Scots to relinquish the Duke (of Albany), or else to drive them to hunger by destroying their corn, but the total ruin of their Borders shall ensue. He never intended to burn green corn, as my Lord of Winchester objected, but when it was stacked." No wonder that the good Bishop expressed his horror at war.

The year 1524 again finds Fox carefully watching over the interests of his college; in his letter to Wotton:‡ "He hears of Wotton's talents from the President of Corpus Christi College of which he is founder. Cannot make him Fellow, as it is contrary to the statutes of Magdalen College, but makes him '*socio comparem*,'

* No. 2859. Feb. 1523. Ellis, 3 Ser., 320.

† This was the Tax which Shakespeare has made part of English History to all time by his tale of the gentle and successful pleading against it of the good Queen Katharine.

‡ 2nd Jan., 1524, No. 4. Wotton was afterwards President of College of Physicians.

and gave him licence to travel in Italy to improve his learning, and chiefly to learn Greek for three years from May next, unless he wishes for a longer time. He will receive yearly a certain sum, and the same sum from the College according to the statutes.* Esher, 2nd January, 1524." Whilst the Bishop is intent upon the arts of peace, Lord Dacre, as his pupil in keeping down Border outlaws and robbers, tells Surrey that "he has made Sir Ralph Fenwick, the Keeper of Tynedale, deal with them as was the custom in the time of my Lord of Winchester."†

In August, 1524, Fox was again in antagonism to Wolsey as to the attempted visitation of Magdalen College, under Wolsey's Legatine authority, by Dr. Claybroke, and in December, 1524, the Bishop successfully objected to procurations being payable to Wolsey as Legate, from St. Mary Overy and St. Thomas' Hospital in Southwark.

In August, 1526, King Henry made a progress. He was merry and in good health; and Bishop Fox being ready as always to welcome his Sovereign, the King fixed to be at Winchester with the Bishop on the eve of the Assumption; and Fitzwilliam writes to Wolsey from Winchester that the King had had great cheer with my Lord Arundel, Lord Delaware, Lord Lisle, and now with my Lord of Winchester. Wolsey was not with the King, and Richard Abbot of Hyde writes Wolsey that he cannot go to him, "is expecting the King next week."‡ The King probably visited the church of Hyde as was expected, and some defects must have existed in the church, as the Bishop had been expending and did expend considerable sums upon it.

Fox lived in the state belonging to his position with the

* See the Statutes.

† *Sup.*, p. 49.

‡ 6th August, 1526. No. 3334

officials surrounding his episcopal throne which belonged to so great a Prelate. Harpsfield's account of Fox's household is "*Numerosam et amplissimam familiam ducentorum videlicet et vigenti hominum aluit.*" It is difficult to know exactly what this means, it may merely mean the Episcopal open table, but in the valuation for the subsidy the entry is: "Household servants to the Lord Bishop of Winchester, thirty-four names, £4 8*s.* 10*d.*"*

In April, 1527, Henry VIII. had Bishop Fox examined on interrogatories to procure evidence in favour of the divorce from the Queen; anything more repulsive to Fox cannot be conceived.

On the Bishop's declining to subscribe his deposition on account of his blindness, and none of his Councillors being allowed to be present, Dr. Wolman said he was instructed to sign it, if necessary, in the Bishop's name. Whereupon out of deference to the King's command, Fox signed it.†

It is to this period and not to 1528 that Fox's undated letter of 7th April to Henry VIII. must be ascribed. He says he has executed the King's commands to the best of his ability, memory, and conscience, according to his Grace's letter and credence sent by Dr. Wolman. Begs the King to continue his good Lord, and have consideration for his great age, blindness, and lack of memory. Winchester, 7th April.‡ On the 17th November, 1527, Fox writes to Wolsey from Marwell:§ "Hears from his Chancellor that Wolsey is displeased with him (the Chancellor),‖ in consequence of sinister information, and because he has laid claim to a parish church and prebend that Mr. Dowman had, and that Wolsey has ordered him not to depart without special licence.

* 1524. No. 969 (5), R.P.
† April, 1527, No. 4049.
‡ 7th April, 1527. In R.P. dated 1528.
§ 17th November, 1527, No. 3583.
‖ The Chancellor was John Incent.

Asks Wolsey to hear together the Chancellor and those who gave the information, and doubts not that he will find he has acted uprightly. He has sufficient learning and experience for his charge, and is wise, discreet, and circumspect in giving judgments, with good will, diligence, and boldness. Does not think there are two men in the shire who will complain of him. Doubts not that he can show Wolsey his title to the said benefices, and that he will be ordered according to Wolsey's pleasure. Wants his Chancellor daily, and especially for the keeping of his consistories, of which the next will be on the Saturday after the Feast of St. Andrew, and for a Visitation in the New College of St. Mary beside Winchester.* Asks that he may return, and, if Wolsey wishes, he can appear before him in Hilary Term. Marwell, 17th November."

Wolsey not complying with the Bishop's request he wrote again from Marwell on the 1st December, 1527.†

"Hears from his Chancellor that Wolsey has not complied with request in his letter sent by Mr. Paulet. Asks Wolsey to allow him to return, as the clerical subsidy must be assessed before Christmas, and he, from the last three years' practice, can do more in fifteen days than any other in a month.

"Thanks God that his wit and body serve him as they did as when he was last with Wolsey, but he trusts he does not think he will ride about the country this winter season for the subsidy. His Chancellor has had to do not only with the subsidies, but also with the prests which the King has had of the clergy. They have always been assessed before Christmas, soon after levied, and paid before all others. His Chancellor can return to Wolsey to answer any complaint, but Fox hopes Wolsey will find him what he said in his last letter."

* He had visited this College in 1526.

† 1st December, 1527, No. 3623.

This letter Wolsey complied with, and Fox writes on 18th January, 1528,* to Wolsey from Winchester.

"Thanks him for being gracious to his Chancellor, as he is informed by Master Paulet. As to the misdemeanours of which the Bishop himself and his Chancellor are accused, in matters concerning his jurisdiction, it is true that the religious women in his diocese are forbidden to leave their monasteries, "and yet so much liberty appeareth sometime too much." Had he the same authority as Wolsey, he would endeavour to "mure and enclose" their monasteries according to the ordinance of the law; otherwise there will be no surety for their observance of good religion. For the rest, they are as favourably dealt with as any religious women in the realm. The religious men have been put to less cost in my days than others be. Never took procurations of them for all his visitations, by the space of twenty-six years, and has shown many of them great kindness. Has not been severe on the secular clerks except for fornication and adultery. Never deprived any one in any of his dioceses. Except at Southwark, which is under the Archdeacon's jurisdiction, there is as little known crime as within any diocese in the realm."

Yet Bishop Fox was most kind to the nunneries in his diocese. There is a MS. Pontifical Service Book in English in the University Library at Cambridge, with a Latin inscription, This Book belongs to the Monastery of Nuns of St. Mary in the City of Winchester, from the gift of the Reverend Father in Christ, the Lord Richard Fox, Bishop of the same city and a principal benefactor to the monastery.†

On the 13th February, 1528, the Bishop, under a power reserved to him by the College Statutes of 1517, made the final

* 18th January, 1528, No. 3816.

† Maskell, Mon. Rit. iii, 331, 2 Ed.

alterations in them. The New Statutes are signed by him and by a notary public in the presence of Mr. John Incent, Doctor of Laws, and "our Chancellor," Oliver Coren, S.T.P., and "our Confessor,"* Mr. Roger Stokesley, M.A., and Treasurer of our Chamber," and Mr. Gilbert Burton, Bachelor of Decrees, "our Secretary."

In the same month, two days after, the Bishop executed his last will.

The will commences with a solemn and touching introduction, and then provides for his burial. If he should die in his Palace of Wolvesey or in the Hospital of Saint Cross before noon, his body was to be buried that afternoon in the chapel which he had ordained for that purpose in the Church of St. Swithin; if he should die in the said Palace or Hospital in the afternoon, then his body (if possible) was to be borne to the choir of that Church and there deposited till the next day, and then buried in the chapel; if he died elsewhere his body was to be taken to St. Swithin's, and in no case to remain unburied more than two days.

He next deals with that most anxious subject for a great prelate: dilapidations. He says he believes he had sufficiently repaired, and left in good condition all his churches, castles, manors, and other houses, and the places pertaining to them, but if it should happen that Wolsey should succeed him in his See, the Cardinal should have five hundred marks in money and the hangings and vessels of silver, some gilt and some plain, which are mentioned in his inventory, and which he values at five hundred marks, and the vessels and household furniture specified in the inventory, of which some for the use of his house remain in the hands of the officers of his cellar, of his watermen, of the

* Oliver Coren was M.A. and a Fellow of Pembroke Hall before 1514. Vet. Reg. Pemb., 9, 3.

officers of his pantry, of the clerks of his kitchen as appears by the indenture made between these officers and Roger Stokesley, the Treasurer of his Chamber, on condition that the Cardinal as successor gives the executors a release against all claims, but if any other person should be his successor he was to have the hangings and silver plate and nothing else, and these under the same conditions of giving a full release to his executors, and he most solemnly and sacredly beseeches his successor, whoever he may be, to be satisfied with these legacies, the testator being convinced that he has suffered no dilapidation or noticeable ruin in the edifices belonging to his See.

The Bishop then leaves to the Most Illustrious, Henry Courtenay, Marquis of Exeter, his hangings containing nine pieces, called "Le Hercules," and a gold salt-cellar with the cover; hangings and salt-cellar both specified in the inventory.

To the Most Noble, William Sandys, Lord of Sandys, the King's Chamberlain, his hangings containing ten pieces, called "Le Vineyards," and a bed with its apparatus, as specified in the inventory.

To his very beloved William Paulett, Knight, his hangings of four pieces, in English called "Le Grissell," with two pieces of St. John, and a bed with its apparatus, as expressed in the inventory.

He gives twenty pounds to each of his executors, confirms the gifts in his inventory, directs all his goods not disposed of by this his will or his inventory to be sold by his executors, and the produce within a year after his death to be distributed by his executors among such persons as in his lifetime having been his tenants in any of the demesnes of his Bishopric of Winchester, within the county of Southampton, or Bailiwick of Downton in the county of Wilts, should in the discretion of his executors

at the time of the distribution be deemed the most poor and in want.

He appoints Sir William Paulet, Mr. John Claymond, President of Corpus Christi College; Mr. John Incent, the Custos of the Hospital of St. Cross, his Chancellor; Masters William Disney and Lionel Norris, Esquires, and Mr. Roger Stokesley, Treasurer of his Chamber, Executors.

He appoints overseers of his will the said Lord Marquis of Exeter and the said Lord of Sandys, beseeching them for the mutual love which for a long time had between them and him, to assist the executors of his will as long as they inviolably observe it in each particular.

The will is attested by Oliver Coren, S.T.P., his confessor, Nicholas Harpsfeild, Doctor of Decrees, his Commissary, Master Gilbert Burton, Bachelor of Decrees, his secretary, and *Dominus* John Lambert, Chaplain, and John Rufford, Gentleman, specially called for the purpose.

The will is signed and sealed by the Bishop before a Public Notary at his Manor of Marwell.*

He had been working at the repairs of his episcopal buildings for some time, and on the 25th April, 1528, he writes to the Lord Treasurer requesting him to make his excuse to the King for payment of a prest of 100 marks to be delivered by Assumption Day. Has been at great charge in repairing his ruinous houses in Southwark, and keeping (in repair) of the church of Hyde these two years past and more.

* The will was not proved, but is kept at Corpus Christi College. We are indebted to the President, Dr. Fowler, for his unbounded kindness in giving access and guidance to all the treasures in his careful custody relating to the Founder of his House: the Portraits, the Plate, and the manuscripts; and in supplying much prized information which his zeal has acquired, and his good judgment as an Antiquarian has enabled him to properly appreciate.

On the same day Lord Sandys writes Wolsey "hears from the Bishop of Winchester that contrary to Wolsey's promise that he should only furnish ten men, the King's letter commands him to furnish fifty. If all the other letters are similarly increased, he has sent out more than necessary."*

Wolsey's power was waning when Lord Sandys, on Bishop Fox's behalf, could write to the Cardinal in this style.

Fox's Inventory is not at the College. Besides the references to it in the Will, there are other notices of its contents.† Among the debts due from Cardinal Wolsey at his departure from Cawood Castle are entered, "To Sir Lionell Norays, for goods bequeathed to him by the Bishop of Winchester in recompense for his service and withheld by the Cardinal, £40," and "To William Disney for money and goods bequeathed by the Bishop of Winchester for thirty years' service, whereof he was in possession and dispossessed by the Cardinal, £200."‡

The value of the personal estate in the Inventory would not appear to be very great, for Stephen Gardiner, who succeeded Wolsey in the See of Winchester, in a letter to Cromwell in 1532, says: "Remember that I receive £1300 less from the Bishopric than Bishop Fox did, and owe twice as much as he was worth when he died, if his Inventory be true."

The Bishop's legacies not only showed his regard but his judgment and good taste in the distribution of them to the legatees. His very beloved William Paulet, nephew to Sir Amias Paulet his Steward at Wells, he had known probably since his stay in 1493 at

* R.P., vol. iv, part II, No. 4199.

† Some of the Plate conditionally given by it to Wolsey is indicated by three pieces among his Plate at Cawood with Pelicans on the covers. R.P. iv, 3, p. 3044.

‡ Disney was Treasurer of the Household to Wolsey at Wolsey's death, and probably had been retained in the service of Wolsey at Winchester from the service of Bishop Fox.

Dogmersfield. This seat of the Bishop of Bath and Wells was near Basing, a manor which Sir William Paulet, following his uncle Sir Amias' example at Hinton St. George, enlarged into the Great Place of Basing House, eminently fit to be beautified by the costly hangings bequeathed to him by the Bishop. On the other side of Basing Lord Sandys had converted his ancestral Manor House of the Vyne into the stately mansion which still remains to show how worthy a receptacle it was to the appropriate tapestry of "the Vineyards." Henry Courtenay, now made Marquis of Exeter, who "in the camp of the Cloth of Gold," as Gibbon tells us in his chapter on the House of Courtenay, "broke a lance against the French Monarch," had a "fair mansion" in the City, near the river, forfeited by the splendid Duke of Buckingham, the chambers of which were doubtless adorned by such hangings as "the Hercules," and the banqueting room of which would exhibit glistening plate only surpassed by the gold saltcellar and cover of Bishop Fox.

The Bishop thus to the last encouraged in his friends not only Henry the Seventh's habit of building fine houses, but also of ornamenting them with costly tapestry,* brightening their walls with hangings of a brilliant colour, freely displayed by the oriels and windows, made safe by the Royal policy of Peace.

Before detailing his last work of benevolence, we may notice some of Fox's good acts which have not been mentioned before.

In 1524, he, in conjunction with Lord Sandys, founded anew the Guild and Free Chapel of the Holy Ghost near Basingstoke, and added a school, and a priest to officiate in the chapel and teach in the school.†

* Three entries of purchases of arras by Henry VII. make up £12 000 of our money. Parker's Domestic Architecture, vol. ii., p. 33.

† Woodward's History of Hampshire, III., 226. Charter dated November 16, 1524. History of the Vyne, p. 41.

Since Warton's time, the transept roof of Netley Abbey Church, the rebuilding of which is, on his authority, attributed by Dr. Ingram to Fox, has fallen down. A pelican carved on a stone in a neighbouring Museum is all that remains to testify what Netley owed to the architectural taste of the Bishop.*

The altar screen at St. Mary Overy, Southwark, must have been erected by Fox. The upper frieze of it is entirely covered with Pelicans vulning themselves, and Holy Lambs. It was probably finished after the completion of the Great Screen at Winchester, and is much on the same plan, although of course on a smaller scale.† Fox, if attending the Court, Convocation, or Parliament,‡ would use Winchester House, his Southwark Palace, close to St. Mary's.

Farnham Castle was apparently not often occupied as a residence by the Bishop,§ but traces of his work are pointed out in the present kitchen, on the left-hand side of the present entrance hall; it was not possible for him to live in the Castle without adding something to its stately fitness. The historians of Surrey say that from the initials of his name and other memorials being yet traceable among the ruins of the Keep, it is surmised that this division of the fortress was probably restored or rebuilt during Bishop Fox's residence here.‖

Fox's last work of pious foundation is the Free Grammar School at Grantham. Wood says: "He had intended to build it at Ropesley, in a little grove joining to the house where he was

* *Sup.*, p. 119 (n). Woodward Hist., vol. ii., p. 374.

† See an article in Gentleman's Mag. for 1834, p. 151.

‡ Bishop Fisher said that Fox, in his last years, desired not to mix himself with the business of either Parliament or Convocation. R.P., viii., 335.

§ Henry VIII. was at Farnham Castle in July and August, 1516; in November, 1517, he received the French Ambassador there.

‖ Brayley and Britton's Hist. of Surrey. vol. v., p. 269.

born, but the place being but a village, and therefore unfrequented, he altered his mind and built it at Grantham, which was then a place of commerce and trading."* In selecting Grantham for the place of his Free Grammar School, he was probably not unmindful of the fact that the first ecclesiastical preferment he held was the Prebend of South Grantham, in the Church of Salisbury. This Prebendary was the patron of the vicarage of South Grantham, in the Church of Grantham, which was a separate vicarage from that of North Grantham in the same Church till 1714.

He first built a school and master's house in Grantham on the north side of the churchyard—a spacious and handsome stone school house and a good stone house and offices for the master.†

The difference between the style of Fox's schools at Taunton and Grantham is considerable. Taunton, the earlier building, is lighted by large windows to the south and east of a size and character corresponding with halls of Somersetshire manor houses of the period. Grantham, the later building, has smaller windows on both sides. The design for the Taunton School was probably submitted to Fox before his sight was affected: the details of the Grantham buildings must have been left to his local Master of the Works. In these school houses Fox's power of judicious adaptation is as visible as in his College at Oxford and Sanctuary at Winchester. It is only on his sacred edifices that he lavishes that outward ornamentation, those "forms of more curious and exquisite building," which Speed says "Henry VII. and Bishop Fox first

* Wood. Hist. Coll. Oxon., vol. iv., p. 387, ed. 1786.

† An engraving of the school is given in Turner's Hist. of Grantham; it has, on the west gable, a Pelican in stone. Turner gives the dimensions seventy-five feet by thirty. We have been kindly assisted by the present master, W. J. Hollings, Esq., M.A.

(as is reported) learned in France and thence brought with them into England."*

It is characteristic of Fox that his total blindness so little affected his usefulness or activity. It did prevent his conferring Orders and his performing Divine Service as Prelate at the Chapters of the Garter. When attending there on the new Statutes being made,† Henry VIII. treated him with all honour. He alone sat at the Royal table. The young King's confidence in Bishop Fox continued after he had become blind. "The Bishop of Winchester," writes the Venetian Resident in June, 1523,‡ "who has much influence with the King,§ but is blind, has advised him to make truce with France, and to recal two Captains sent by Wolsey against France for the sake of keeping them at a distance from the Court. The Bishop says that money is expended fruitlessly, and it seems that the Cardinal is no longer in such great favour with the King as formerly." Notwithstanding his blindness, Fox continued his literary labours. In March, 1524, a Processional after the Salisbury use was printed at Antwerp and published in London, "*noviter ac rursus castigatum per excellentissimum et reverendissimum in Christo patrem dominum nostrum dominum Episcopum de Wynton.*" It was probably between his translation of the Rule of St. Benet, in 1516‖ and 1524, that he gave the translation of the Consecration Service to the Nunnery of St. Mary's, Winchester.¶ The Bishop, still desirous that the members of nunneries in his diocese should know their religious obliga-

* Speed Hist., p. 970, ed. 1672.

† *Sup.*, p. 109.

‡ "His Grace went to dyner in Hall, and there kept his Royal Estate, non sitting at his board but only the Lord Ric. Fox, Bishopp of Winchester and Prelate of the Order." Anstis' Order of the Garter.

§ R.P. Venetian, 1520—1526, p. 320. The Italian is "*qual è molto appresso il Re.*"

‖ *Sup.*, p 104. ¶ *Sup*, p 124.

tions and what they professed on their consecration, seems to have caused this translation of the Order for Consecration of Nuns into their mother tongue, to be made for the nuns of St. Mary's. This appears from the insertion of the name of this nunnery in the form of Profession.

Even when he was the King's Secretary in the autumn of 1486, Fox showed great interest in ritual literature. There is in the British Museum* a beautiful manuscript with illuminated borders in gold and colours by John de Giglis, afterwards Bishop of Worcester, being a copy made by him, at Secretary Fox's request, of a treatise on the proper mode of observing Lent. Bishop Fisher's dedication of "the Œcolampadius" in 1525 to Fox† shows that he then had the same interest in the literary works of others as when Linacre presents to him his translation of *Galen de Sanitate tuendâ*, in 1517, and writes begging the Bishop, "whose house was the constant resort of the learned," to secure from them a favourable opinion of the book.‡

Nor did Fox's blindness prevent his exercising his episcopal jurisdiction. In June, 1528, we find him attending to his judicial functions as Bishop. Dr. Incent, his Chancellor, brought before him at Marwell from St. Cross one Cockes, the Curate of Kingston-on-Thames, who claimed an article taken in distress by the Doctor's bailiff. The Bishop asked for Cockes' dispensation, which he could not produce: "Ye should have had it with you," said the Bishop. "My Lord," said Cockes, "I owe your Lordship no such obedience, my obedience is unto my Lord Cardinal immediately, and though I be in your diocese, I am not of your diocese." Incent accused Cockes of stealing the article; Fox heeded not the appeal to

* Harl. MSS., vol. i., p. 203, No. 236.

† *Sup.*, p. 71 (n).

‡ Life of Linacre, p. 213, App. 317; "*doctorum, quos in contubernio habes.*"

Wolsey's Legatine power, but sent Cockes between two tall persons to his own prison at Wolvesey for custody.*

The Bishop would, as long as his dear friend John Claymond was Master, from 1505 to 1524, use St. Cross as his own house; and Incent, his Chancellor, when appointed Master by him on John Claymond's resignation, would encourage the Bishop's habit of using the Master's quiet Lodge as a "cell" to the palace of Wolvesey.

The endowment of the Grantham School was not completed until the 2nd October, 1528, when the Bishop granted to the Corporation of Grantham lands in Lincolnshire and in Wells; some of the Lincolnshire lands having been only conveyed to William Disney and others in trust for the Bishop on the 20th August previously. The endowment was made as a provision "for the schoolmaster for the time being and actually teaching grammar in the school-house which he had builded in the said town of Grantham, and dwelling, inhabiting, and household keeping in and upon the mansion-place nigh adjoining unto the school-house which the said Bishop had likewise builded."†

Harpsfield‡ says that in his last years Bishop Fox confined himself to the work of his diocese, and there most carefully performed all the duties of his episcopal office.§ He repaired the losses of his long absence by nourishing the famished souls by himself and his clerical assistants, and by sacred preaching; the

* R.P., xi., p. 127. Cockes tells the story.

† Disney is described as of Norton Disney, Co. Lincoln.

‡ Eccl. Hist., 15 Cent., Douai 1622. He wrote this history in prison, where, after twenty-four years confinement, he died, 1583. He was probably nephew of Nicholas Harpsfeild, the Bishop's Commissary.

§ The last occasion on which the Bishop conferred Orders in person was on the 22nd December, 1520; from that time, he becoming blind in 1522, the Ordinations were performed in the Diocese of Winchester, by William, Bishop "Dariensis," instead and by the authority of Bishop Fox, down to the 19th September, 1528.

poorer sort of people he supplied with sustenance, all necessaries of life, food, clothes, and money. Losing his sight, he applied himself night and day to prayers and sacred meditations. He provided that two chantry priests should commend his soul and the souls of all departing in the faith of Christ by prayers to God. "At length," adds the Chronicler, "this pious man changed his frail and mortal life for a heavenly and immortal one, at which time I, yet a boy, remember that I was present at his obsequies and funeral, being then sent by my parents from London to Winchester, there to imbibe the first elements of letters." The Bishop was buried under his chantry on the 5th October, 1528, the day of his decease, in accordance with the directions of his will.*

Cardinal Wolsey on the 6th October, the day after, wrote to the King from Durham Place: "I have news of the death of the Bishop of Winchester (Fox), and as in your communications with me you have expressed your desire for 'drawing my promotions near unto your Grace,' I thought it convenient to put you in mind of the great commodity now offered 'for establishing my things after such sort' as I might do you greater service."† On the 20th October there is a grant to Wolsey of the custody of the See and Temporalities of Winchester void by the death of Richard the last Bishop during such voidance. But the Cardinal did not get from the Pope the appointment to the actual Bishopric of Winchester. On the 1st February, 1529, Clement VII. issued his Bull of Provision, appointing Wolsey only perpetual administrator of the See of Winchester. At this Wolsey expressed his surprise in April,‡ saying he had been, when appointed to Durham, provided

* *Sup.*, p. 125.
† R.P., Hen. VIII., vol. iv., p. 2086, No. 4824.
‡ R.P., vol. iv., p. 2389, Nos. 5429, 5432.

to the Bishopric. His wish for the full honours of Bishop of Winchester was not gratified, and the terms on which he obtained administration of that See from the King were that he should resign the See of Durham; before ten months had elapsed he was compelled to resign Winchester also.*

On looking over his acquisitions Wolsey found that Fox had given the Mastership of the Game of the See to Lord Sandys;† in no fitter hands could it have been placed, for when withdrawing from Court to the Vyne, in sympathy with Queen Katharine, Sandys vigilantly protected the King's deer in the neighbouring Royal forests.‡

Corpus Christi College, Oxford, show with pride and pleasure the unrivalled collection of plate which Fox gave to his House. First of all are the precious vessels for the highest Service of the Sanctuary; the chalice and the paten, made, with that devoted reverence for the Holy Eucharist which was the rule of Fox's life, of pure gold. This magnificent chalice is quite unique in its way. It is, say the latest writers on the subject,§ "the only English mediæval gold chalice that has escaped the hands of the spoiler, and it is satisfactory to know that its true value, archæological and artistic, is thoroughly appreciated by its guardians." The paten fits the chalice, and is of the same date, 1507–8.

Besides these sacred vessels, there are two basins, silver gilt, each seventeen inches in diameter; one of them has the hall mark 1493–4. The other has on the side of its depression a small hole of trefoil shape, and on the under side is a nondescript beast's head (a miniature gurgoyle) out of which the liquid would

* 17th Feb., 1530.

† R.P., vol. iv., pl. 3, p. 2915. See a Grant, *sup.*, p. 50.

‡ History of the Vyne, p. 45.

§ Messrs. W. H. St. John Hope, and T. M. Fallow. Arch. Journal, vol. xliii, 371.

pour. Its hall mark is 1514. Both have in the centre a boss with a shield containing in enamel the arms of the See of Winchester impaling a pelican vulning herself. There are also twelve silver gilt spoons, six with Bishop Oldham's owls as handle ends, hall marked 1506; and six with balls as handle ends, hall marked 1516. These spoons may be the spoons bequeathed to the College by Robert Morwent, second President. He by his will, dated 1557, leaves to the College "a dozen spoons with slypps." The College also possesses a Tazza or silver gilt covered cup ornamented with pomegranates, hall mark, 1515; the silver gilt crozier of the founder,* in very fine preservation; and, lastly, a noble salt-cellar of silver gilt, representing hunting scenes, pelicans, &c., surmounted by a rim with the initials R. F., frequently repeated. This last piece, which is one of the finest specimens of Mediæval plate existing in England, is probably of French or Italian workmanship, there being no hall mark.

It is probable that the chalice and paten had been those always used by the Bishop himself after his accession to Winchester, and they may possibly have been given to the College during his life-time.

The armorial bearings of the College include the pelican in her piety, that is, standing in her nest wounding her bosom and feeding her young with her blood, and this device represents there the armorial bearings of Bishop Fox; but down to the foundation of the College his general practice was to use the pelican vulning herself only, without the nest or the young. The pelican alone simply vulning herself is more commonly used by the Bishop's

* Shaw's Specimens of Antient Furniture: Saltcellar, pl. 65; chalice, pl. 69; crozier, pl. 71. The saltcellar in Skelton's Oxonia Restaurata, pl. lxv. There is a Replica of the Pomegranate Cup in the South Kensington Museum. It was, perhaps, a gift from Queen Katharine.

sculptors in stone and carvers in wood. Of his episcopal seals those of Winchester and Bath and Wells remain, his Palatinate Seal of Durham also, and neither of the latter have the piety. His arms as recorded in the Herald's College omit the piety. They are: "Az. a pelican vulning herself or, within a bordure of the last a canton ermine;" but there is no grant of these arms to the Bishop. The piety is not inserted in his "Book of St. Benet," nor in any of the representations of the pelican in the chancel and on his chantry at Winchester; and the piety was omitted in the arms recorded by Wood as being in the College hall. Instead of the piety, the armorial bearings of the Bishop in the College chapel had a canton ermine, and in the Roll of Parliament (6 Henry VIII.) a bordure of gold.

The episcopal ring in the custody of the President of the College seems to be the ring represented in the portrait by Corvus in the College hall. It was given by the founder himself to John Claymond, and by him bequeathed to his successors in the Presidency.

This is the ancient picture described by Walpole as painted after the Prelate had lost his sight. That writer says (incorrectly) that no other work of Corvus is known, and this one only from the inscription *Johannes Corvus Flandrensis faciebat* on the frame, apparently of the same age as the picture. Walpole adds that there are two or three pictures of the same Prelate in the College, but this is probably the original.

Besides one at Sudeley Castle, there are five other portraits in the College, two of which are probably portraits of Fox, the three others are undoubtedly copies of the Corvus portrait.

There are portraits of the Bishop at the Palace, Wells, Magdalen College, Taunton, and Grantham, apparently copies of the Corvus

R. Fox
Ep Wint'
C. P. S.

THE LAMBETH PALACE PORTRAIT.

p. 139.

portrait, and engravings of it in Knight's "Life of Colet," Fiddes' 'Life of Wolsey," and Hutchinson's "Durham."

There is one portrait of Fox of great value in the private drawing-room at Lambeth Palace which deserves particular attention. The eyes are open, the face is younger than in the Corvus portrait, and it was probably painted before he resigned the Privy Seal, as it has the initials after his name, C.P.S.

The character of Bishop Fox requires the pen of a Clarendon to fitly portray it. Filling great places in Church and State, he carried himself so well in them as to acquire the love and reverence of all who came near him. He was indeed, as their Minister reports him to the Signory of Venice, "a Lord of extreme authority and goodness."

As a statesman, he was not merely a lover but an earnest promoter of peace. His counsel first assuaged the horrors of civil war; the cry in the strife of the Roses of "*Væ victis*" was no more heard. "*Parcere subjectis*" was his ruling guide, and so the discord abated and ceased, not stamped out, but melted away by the soft shower of Mercy. Nor was he less of a peacemaker with rival kingdoms. He made peace with Scotland, and confirmed it by securing that marriage which made the Royal Houses of the two kingdoms one Family. With foreign powers beyond the sea he proceeded in the same spirit. He first insisted on England's having the command of the narrow seas, and then made her power and influence of weight in the conflicts of Germany with France and Spain, and strong for the protection of Italy, always very dear in his sight. He heartily encouraged the defence of Europe against the Mussulman, and would have gladly seen her rid of the Turk, as she became in his day, by the conquest of Grenada, rid of the Moor.

As a prelate he first upheld discipline, next the free* promotion

* Lady Sandys' letter. R.P., Hen. VIII., vol. ix., p. 220.

of good men, and then did what in him lay to repress the growth of a vicarious performance of their duties by an absentee and pluralist parish clergy. The monks and nuns were almost too much for his powers, but his personal character made his visitations and injunctions carry a force beyond their real strength. He felt that he owed a duty to the supreme office he held as a Prelate of the Church to preserve the rights of his Place, whilst he did not stand upon his authority or content himself with self-assertion. If he appealed to anything in support of his position it was to the affection which he showed for those placed under him, and their kindly reception of the good offices he had done for them.

His acts and works here briefly set down are the best monument of his fame. He may be judged too by the character of his friends. First and foremost, King Henry VII., who even now has not had justice done him, for the mighty change he made in England in his twenty-five years' reign, still less for the loving features of his domestic life; then the young King, for the first ten years of his reign, taking the counsel of and delighting to honour his father's friend; then come Morton and Bray, Daubeny and Darcy, Bishop Fisher and Bishop Oldham, the colleagues and associates of his active years. When tired of statesmanship, he devotes himself to his Episcopal Cure, and retires from the Court to dwell among his own people, and by every means in his power to diffuse and perpetuate education "in virtue and godliness," he has the love of his old and tried dependants, and draws round him by the strong cords of affection the young Marquis of Exeter and the rising courtiers Sir William Paulet and Lord Sandys.

His opinions were not ahead of the wiser men of his age; but in a period when advance was the order of things he was among the most advanced. He assisted by private patronage the students of the New Learning, when the language of Greece had been driven

from Constantinople by the Turk, not long after his birth. Among the foremost of these students were Prior Selling and Dean Gunthorp. Whilst marching in the procession of the pious founders of colleges and schools of his time, he excelled their work by making his College a light of learning to the whole University, and his schools a fount of education, without price, to the whole inhabitants of their towns.

Once more, let us look at the results of his achievements in faithful duty to Church and State. They have come down to our own times; the throne of Great Britain, which by his plans was built up in the next century, unites England and Scotland into one people of transcendent loyalty and affection to a gracious Queen; his College stands, and has been ever since its erection, for all kinds of learning, divine and human, paramount for eminent persons bred there, among whom the Church of England will gladly and gratefully give the highest place to Richard Hooker; whilst among the pupils of his schools, stands Nature's greatest interpreter, the incomparable Isaac Newton.

Hooker's uncle in the next generation, says of Bishop Fox: "Such a man was he for wisdom, knowledge, learning, and truth, that he left not his lyke at that time after him." It is impossible to read these words without contrasting the character of Wolsey with that of Fox. Fox undoubtedly had, like Wolsey, extraordinary powers and capacities. In Fox, however, we see how "Love and meekness become a churchman better than ambition." He was exceedingly free from any self-seeking, and although observing a solid and real stateliness in all the surroundings of a great place, he was conspicuous for the absence of ostentation. This was due to his fervent and exalted, yet most humble piety. The God whom he trusted protected him in weakness, blindness, and danger: loyal to his heart's core, he would only serve his King in

whatever might become a priest of the Lord, and so, whilst Wolsey felt himself given over in his grey hairs, Fox was mightily sustained by the Divine Mercy in a good old age, full of days and honour.

After all it is not as Statesman or Prelate that Fox stands highest in the estimation and love of succeeding ages. It is as a man that he excels. To adapt the language of the Master of historic portraiture, in his character of the Lord Capel:—

He was a man, that, whoever after him has deserved best of the English Church and Nation, can never have thought himself undervalued, when he heard, that his charity, virtue, and fidelity, had been laid in the balance with, and compared to, that of

BISHOP RICHARD FOX.

INTRODUCTION TO THE REGISTER.

THE Episcopal Register of Bishop Richard Fox, in the Episcopal Registry of Bath and Wells, is a folio volume, bound in calf, with the original boards. It commences with the words—

FOX EPUS,

and contains 37 numbered leaves, with 12 additional leaves not paginated. It extends from 10th May, 1492, to 3rd December, 1494.

At the beginning, before the title of the first Entry, it purports to be the Register of the admissions, institutions, collations, exchanges, and other letters and acts of his Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction, duly made and completed during the time of the Reverend Father in Christ the Lord Richard Fox, by the Grace of God Bishop of Bath and Wells, by himself and by his Vicar-General in Spirituals during his absence.

The contents of the Register accord pretty accurately with the initial description. There are forms of institution and collation to Parish Churches, Cathedral Dignities and Canonries, Chantries and Benefices. These are sometimes preceded by processes of Inquisition as to Rights of Patronage, and by Grants of next Presentations and Exchanges, and accompanied by grants of Pensions to Incumbents resigning. There are Appointments of Officials of the See, temporal and spiritual: Apostolic and Episcopal Dispensations, Letters Dimissory, Manumissions to Serfs on Episcopal Manors, and Licences. There occur detailed accounts of the Nomination, Election and Appointment to the

respective headships of the Religious Houses of St. John the Baptist's Hospital Bristol, of Berlich, and of Glastonbury, with the subsequent proceedings, some few other exceptional entries, and many pages of Ordination Lists of those Ordained in the Diocese to Minor and Holy Orders.

There are five cases of inquisitions as to Rights of Patronage.

The Bishop was entitled to issue this inquisition directed to six clergymen and six laymen, if two persons claiming to be patrons presented to the vacant living.

Godolphin (1687, p. 644) says: "If there be but one only that doth present to the Ordinary yet he may award a Jure Patronatus (21 Hen. VI, 44; 34 Hen. VI, 40). The Inquisition not only inquired as to the Patron's right, but as to the Presentee, whether criminous, legitimate, and free from simony.

In the cases of Weston* (8) and Castle Cary (21) the only persons presenting were the Prior and Convent of the Cathedral Church of Bath, who had presented the last time; Selworthy (11) was in lay patronage, and apparently an instance of double presentation. South Cadbury (128) was a case where Lord Hastings, the patron presenting, was not the patron presenting the last time. The form of Inquisition is not entered in the case of Wraxhall (39).

There are several grants of the next Presentation, *i.e.*, the Advowson for one turn, and in three cases the Grant is entered; Carhampton (93), Chard (103), Redyngton (133): but notwithstanding the entry of the Grant of the Advowson of Carhampton, a Bond is taken from the Incumbent and a Surety to indemnify Bishop Fox from having omitted to award an Inquisition as to the right of patronage, it not being perfectly clear.

Of course in every case where a Layman presents to a Vicarage, it is by virtue of a Grant from the Religious Body to whom the Rectory was appropriated. This is the case in the Vicarages of Banwell (87) and Chard (103).

* The figures in parentheses refer to pages in the Register.

The bulk of the Smaller Parish Churches are given to persons styled "*capellani*" and upon resignations. The Resignations are in several cases made upon a pension provided out of the Benefice for the Incumbent resigning; sometimes the provision is confirmed by the oath of the presentee; sometimes by a surety; in one case (114), there is a licence to the incumbent to treat with the proposed presentee on the amount of the pension.

The Officials appointed by the Bishop are several.

The first appointment made is the first Entry in the Register; the Commission to Richard Nykke, an Official Principal to preside in the Consistory Court at Wells. In the same Instrument, to provide during the absence of the Bishop from his diocese, the same person is appointed a Vicar-General in Spirituals. He is empowered to perform the various acts entered in the Register as being afterwards done by him, which are specified, and also armed with all other powers of the Bishop's administrative Jurisdiction, and a power of selecting a Bishop for admitting Candidates to Orders, and for exercising all the special functions of the Episcopal Order within the Diocese.

On the 1st September, 1492 (15), the Bishop appointed a Commissary-General. This grant is during pleasure to Richard Docheson, Bachelor in both Laws. The same office is given by Richard Nykke, the Bishop's Vicar-General, on the 4th May, 1493 (38), during pleasure, to John Lugwardyne, Bachelor in Decrees.

The Office of Registrar of the Bishop's Chancery and Audience is given on 13th April, 1493 (50), at Dogmersfield, to Robert Williamson, Priest, a notary by Apostolic authority, for life.

The Office of Bailiff of the Bishop's Liberties, in or out of Somerset, is given on 15th April, 1493 (51), at Dogmersfield, to William Fulford, the Bishop's Serjeant, for life, with an annual fee of £4. 6*s*. 8*d*.

These Lifehold appointments are confirmed by the Chapter of Wells and the Convent of the Cathedral Church of Bath.

On the 1st June, 1493 (63), the Office of Chief Steward (*Capitalis Senescalcia*) of the Episcopal Hundreds, Lordships, Lands, and Tenements, as well within the County of Somerset as without, is given to Sir Amias Poulet for life, with a pension of 20 marks charged on the Manor of Kingsbury. The proper confirmations of the two capitular Bodies of Bath and Wells are added. On the 20th June, 1493 (97), the Office of Scribe or Registrar of the Consistory Court Wells, and of proceedings before the Commissary-General, is given by the Bishop to Robert Dikar, Clerk, for life. No confirmations of this grant are entered in the Register.

On the 12th January, 1493–94 (120), the Office of Auditor of all Receivers of all the possessions of the Bishoprie in Somerset, Gloucester, Southampton, and Middlesex, and elsewhere in England, is given by the Bishop with a right to the proper fees, to Thomas Hobson for life.

Apostolic Dispensations, or Dispensations to enable Incumbents to hold two or more livings in plurality, were only given by the Pope; Copies of three are in the Register, one from Pope Innocent VIII. (48), for the Head of a Religious House, the Prior of Worspring; another from Pope Sixtus IV. (41), for a Brother of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist, Wells; and a third from the same Pope (71) for a Parish Priest, the Rector of North Tawton in Exeter Diocese.

A Bishop could dispense with residence, and in the case of John Strete, the holder of two livings (Hinton St. George and Chard) by virtue of an Apostolic Dispensation, there is a dispensation by the Vicar-General to him, granted two days after his institution to Chard, for non-residence on his third Rectory of Capland (122).

Manumissions of Serfs, first, at Dogmersfield on 13th April, 1492 (54), are made to Richard Hawkyns, *alias* Twizel, a "*nativus*," belonging to the Episcopal Manor of Banwell, and his issue; second, on 20th May, 1493 (79), to John Croker and his named sons, "*nativi*," belonging to the Episcopal Manors of Banwell and

Wokey, and to their issue. These grants are confirmed by the Capitular Bodies of Wells and Bath.

Glastonbury Abbey, as a Benedictine house, and Berlich, as a priory of Regular Canons of the Order of St. Augustine, were subject to the Episcopal Jurisdiction of Bath and Wells; the Hospital of St. John the Baptist, at Bristol, was originally under the government and patronage of the Bishop of Bath and Wells. The proceedings relating to the appointment of the heads of these three houses have their special peculiarities. At Glastonbury (170), Bishop Fox annulled the election of Thomas Wasing by the convent, on the death in July 1493, of Abbot Selwood, and thereupon, in November, with the King's licence, appointed Richard Bere abbot. At Berlich, Robert Wynde, prior, was deprived (160) or had resigned,* and his office was filled up by the three only remaining canons electing Thomas Birde, a canon of the Augustine Priory of Taunton, to be their head. At Bristol (90), the Mayor nominates to the Bishop, Richard Colyns, a Priest, who is willing to profess himself a Brother of the Order of St. Augustine, to be Magister or Head of the Hospital of St. John Baptist.

Ordinations are all performed by Bishop Cornish for Bishop Fox: they took place generally at Wells, where Bishop Cornish resided, once at Axbridge, of which church he was Vicar, and once in the Conventual Church of Muchelney.

The ordination lists are very full.

Orders were divided into major or sacred, and minor or non-sacred (7). The sacred orders were subdeacon, deacon, and priest; the only minor order in these lists is the order of acolytes.

No one could be admitted to any order unless he were *tonsured*, which operation was performed by a bishop clipping the hair in a prescribed mode. The tonsured person must have been baptized and confirmed, instructed in the rudiments of the faith, and able

* Wynde had been elected on October 4th, 1488, by two Canons, there being no more at that time belonging to the Convent.

to read and write. When tonsured he became a clerk (*clericus*), and entitled to the benefit of clergy.*

An acolyte, it is said, must have passed through the other minor orders,† and be 14 years of age;‡ it was not necessary that a person should be an acolyte before he was instituted and inducted to a living; he must have been "*clericus*."

The Register offers an instance of this, William Lynton, *clericus*, is presented to the Rectory of Spaxton, and instituted on the 23rd May, 1493 (44). Lynton was ordained acolyte 21st September, 1493.

No title is mentioned upon which acolytes are ordained except in Lynton's case, when his Rectory of Spaxton is given as his title; many of the acolytes are ordained upon letters dimissory which were given by the bishop of the diocese in which they were born (7), or had their domicile (78).

Every person according to these lists who is ordained to Holy Orders is ordained upon a title; in only three cases, those of Baker (151), Morrys (140), and Lynton (152), upon that of parish churches; many are ordained upon the title of their stalls in cathedral churches, of their being monks or friars of religious houses, or brothers of hospitals, but the vast bulk of those ordained are admitted "upon the title of a religious house or hospital;" that is, upon a presentation by it, involving liability to maintain the ordained person until he was provided with an office or situation affording him a competent maintenance. In Bath and Wells diocese, these titles come more frequently from the lesser monasteries and from hospitals; the great Abbey of Glastonbury, although within six months seven of its members receive ordination as monks, gives no title to anyone ordained in these

* Tonsura cæremonia ab ecclesia instituta quâ laicus baptizatus, et sacramento confirmationis consignatus, sacro ritu in clerum institutus. Maskell, II, p. xcv.

† Sir T. Hardy. Preface to Reg. Pal. Dunelmense, vol. iii, p. lxix.

‡ Et similiter ille qui primam tonsuram suscipit ordinandus in acolytum, debet esse major xiiij annis. Id. p. cxviii.

lists.* There are many letters dimissory granted, diverse in form, and apparently intended to keep clear of the vexed question whether the Bishop granting them, or the Bishop ordaining upon them, was liable to maintain the person if ordained on a title becoming insufficient.

There is a licence to a monk to serve a chapel (Ly Abbotes) (81), and to administer sacraments, although he was apparently a monk only, not a priest.

There is a change of the Feast of the Dedication Day at Kuestoke (59). A Dedication feast was appointed on the consecration of Burnham Church in 1315 as a day which was to be devoutly kept, and to those who frequented it with due contrition, confession, and votive oblations, forty days' indulgence were granted.†

The Register is apparently kept by the Registrar in the Bishop's Registry at Wells, and one of the many official acts done by Bishop Fox at his Episcopal Manor of Dogmersfield at Easter-tide, 1493, prescribes this custody (50). This provision involved entries being registered of acts of the Bishop performed at a distance from the Registry, from minutes and documents, which are inserted imperfectly and irregularly, and not in chronological order.

TITLES OF ENTRIES IN REGISTER.

(Translated.)

I., Institution. C., Collation. R., Rector. V., Vicar. P., Prebend. Ch., Chantry. P.C., Parish Church.

Commission of Vicar-General in Spirituals to Master Richard Nykke, Doctor of both Laws, 1.

I. R. P.C. Sokke, 5.

C. P.C. West Cammell, 6.

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* A title is sometimes given by a Nunnery as Lacock (150).

† Drokensford's Reg., edited by Bishop Hobhouse. The Form of an Order for change of dedication day is given by Godwin, p. 1463, and the subject of Dedication Feasts largely treated of by Bishop Kennett. Par. Ant. II, 302.

Letters Dimissory in form, 7. Letters Dimissory in customary form, 7.
Inquisition made concerning the Right of Patronage of P.C. Weston, 8. I. V. P.C. Weston, 11.
I. R. P.C. Hungerford Farley, 12. I. V. P.C. Lydearde Episcopi, 12. I. V. P.C. Poulett, 13. I. R. P.C. Staulegh, 13. I. Chaplain Ch. of St. Mary of Ichelstoke, 14. I. V. P.C. Frome, 14.
Commission of Commissary-General, 15.
I. V. P.C. Lydearde Episcopi, 17. I. V. Pytmyster, 17.
Process of Inquisition concerning the Right [of Patronage] of P.C. Selworthy, 18. I. R. P.C. Selworthy, 20.
Process of Inquisition concerning the Right of Patronage of P.C. Castelcary, 21. I. V. P.C. Castelcary, 24.
Commission granted to the Lord Thomas Bishop of Tinos to reconcile and bless P.C. Yestepennard, 25.
I. V. P.C. Wedmore, 25. I. R. P.C. Orchardeley, 26. I. R. P. Charlecom[be], 26. I. R. P.C. Kulmyngton, 27. I. Ch. Wyke, 27.
C. Archdeaconry Taunton with P. Milverton Prima, etc., 28.
I. V. P.C. Longeashton, 28. I. V. P.C. Hasilbere, 29. C. P.C. St. Mary the Greater, Ilchestre, 29. C. P.C. Chelworth, 30.

HERE FOLLOWS THE YEAR 1493.

C. Provostship of Cathedral Church of Wells and P. Combe Duodecima thereto annexed, 30.
I. V. Barowe, 31. C. V. Stowey next Chewe, 31. C. Ninth Chamber on East side of the Close of the Vicars of Wells, 31.
I. P.C. Pytteney, 32. I. P.C. Holford, 32. I. P.C. Ore 33. I. P.C. Kyttenore, 33.
C. P. Dymder in Cath. Wells, 34. C. P. Asshill, 34. C. P. Combe Octava, 35. C. P. Shalforde, 35. C. P. Whitlakyngton, 35.
I. R. Aysholte, 36. I. R. Wolferyngton, 36.
Letters Dimissory, 37.
C. Ch. at Altar of Corpus Christi in Wells Cathedral Church, 37.
Commission of Commissary-General, 38.
I. P.C. Wroxale, 39.
Copy of Faculty to "Dominus" William Drewe, 40.
I. Vicarage Northover in Ilchestre, 41. I. Vicarage Shapwicke, 42.
Exchange P.C. Laverton Vicarage and South Stoke, 42.
I. Vicarage Barowe, 43. I. P.C. Spaxton, 44.
C. Chamber Seventeenth, West Side Vicars' Close, Wells, 45.
Letters Dimissory, 45.
I. Vicarage Lityll Sampford, 45. I. P.C. Whitstaunton, 46.

Commission to consecrate and bless P.C. Long Sutton, 46.
I. Vicarage Kuestoke, 47.
Copy of Faculty to "Dominus" Richard Spryng, Prior of Worspryng, 48.
Grant of Office of Registrar of Chancery or Audience to Master Robert Williamson, 50. Confirmations, D. and Chap. Wells, 51. P. and Chap. Bath, 51.
Grant of Office of Bailiffdom of Liberties, 51. Confirmations, as before, &c., 53.
Grant of one close of meadow to Richard Nykke, Clerk, 53. Confirmations as before, 54.
Manumission of Richard Hawkyns, 54. Confirmations as before, 55.
Annual pension out of the fruits of the Vicarage of Kuestoke assigned to Vicar resigning, 55.
I. Vicarage Ingliscombe, 57. I. V. Weston, 57. I. V. Weston, 57.
I. P.C. Budcombe, 57. I. Chaplain in P.C. Porlock, 58.
Change of the Dedication [Feast Day] of P.C. Kuestoke, 59.
I. R. P.C. West Monkton, 60. I. Free Chapel Estham, 61.
C. P. Compton Dunden, 61. I. Chaplain Ch. of Richard Chocke, Knight, 62. I. V. P.C. Lydearde Episcopi, 62.
Commission of the Office of Seneschal, 63. Confirmations of the same [Bath], 64, [Wells], 64.
C. P. Combe Nona, 64. I. R. P.C. Writlyngton, 65. I. V. Prebendal Church of St. Decuman, 66. I. R. P.C. Erneshill, 66.
I. R. P.C. Aungereslygh, 67. I. R. P.C. Whatlegh, 67. I. Ch. in P.C. Comflorye, 68. I. R. P.C. Norton Malerawarde, 68.
C. P. Whitechirch and Beneger, 69. C. Precentorship Cath. Wells, 70. I. R. P.C. Chesilborowe, 70.
Copy Faculty to Master Thomas Roley, 71.*
I. Canonical Possessor of Church, formerly Curacy, of Gosebraden, 73.
C. Vicarage Congresbury, 74. I. V. P.C. Wynsham, 74. I. V. P.C. Hampton, 75. I. R. P.C. Lukcombe, 75. I. Vicarage Huyssh, 76.
C. Canonical Houses, 77. C. P. Wedmore Secunda, 78.
Letters Dimissory [Acolyte], 78. Lett. Dimiss. [Subdeacon], 78.
I. R. Prebendal Church of Bathwyke, 79.
Manumission of John Croker the Elder of Cheddar, etc., as appears [Confirmation as in other grants], 79.
Licence granted to a Monk to serve the Cure of the Chapel of Ly Abbotes, 80.
C. P. C. St. Michael of Ilchester over the Gate ; by right lapsed, 81.

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* Belongs to Register of Exeter Dioc.

I. V. P.C. Meere, 82. I. R. P.C. Yarlyngton, 82. I. R. P.C. Hungerford Farley, 83. C. P. Barton, 83.
Letter Testimonial of the Induction of Master Thomas Barowe, Provost Cath. Wells, 84.

FOLLOWS THE YEAR OF THE LORD 1494.

I. P.C. Lucton, 86.
Licence of Absence from Church for Study, 86. Letters Dimissory, 87.
I. V. P.C. Banwell, 87.

Here is changed the second year of the Consecration of the Lord Bishop into the third year.

Presentation to the House or Hospital of St. John Baptist, Bristol, 88. Commission to receive the profession of Master Richard Colyns, 89. Form of Profession, 90. Certificate upon the reception of the Profession, 90. Tenor of Institution, 91. Oath of the Prior or Master made on his Admission, 92.
Charter of the Advowson of the Vicarage of P.C. Carhampton, 93. I. V. P.C. Carhampton, 94.
C. Archdeaconry Wells, 95. C. V. P.C. Congresbury, 95. C. P. Yatton, 96. I. R. P.C. Norton next Taunton, 96.
Commission of Scribe or Registrar of Correctional Causes in Consistory of Wells, 97.
I. Chaplain Ch. St. Nicholas founded in P.C. Frome, 98.
Composition between Perpetual Vicar of P.C. South Petherton and Parishioners of Chelyngton, etc., 99.
Commenda made to Master Thomas Compton of the Ch. of St. Nicholas in P.C. Frome, 102.
I. V. P.C. Cherde with assignment of pension, 102. Tenor of [Grant of] Advowson 103. Tripartite decree for annual pension [out] of fruits and profits of Vicarage of P.C. Cherde assigned to the said "Dominus" Robert Hoby, resigning the same Vicarage, 104.
Grant of Keepership of Park of Claverton made to Amias Poulet, Knight, 110. Confirmations, 111.
Presentation to the Perpetual Vicarage of P.C. Whitechurch, Salisbury Dioc., 112.
Grant of Twenty Marks a year for pension [to Robert Hoby], 112.
Licence of absence from Church for three years, etc., 113.
Licence to treat concerning Pension for resigning benefice [Somerton].
C. P.C. Chelworth, 115. C. P. Combe Tredecima, 115. I. R. P.C. North-

stoke, 116. I. V. Estepennarde, 116. I. V. Dunster, 117. C. Ch. founded at altar in honour of Corpus Christi in Cath. Wells, 117.
Grant of Tithes of Demesne of Chewe to present Vicar and his Successors, etc., 118.
I. V. P.C. Est Chynnok, 119.
Grant of Office of Auditor made to Thomas Hobson, 120.
Dispensation granted by Bishop to Rector of Capland to retain the same Church with two other Churches which he obtained by Apostolic Dispensation, 122.
Decree and Ordinance made for the finding one Chaplain in the Chapels of Palton and Feryngdon within Parish of Chewton, 123.
Subscription of Notary, 126.
C. Sixth Chamber [West Side], Vicars' Close, 126.
Exchange Prebend. of Cudworth for Parish Church of Axbridge, 127.
Inquisition made concerning Right of Patronage of P.C. South Cadbury, 128, I. R. P.C. Cadbury, 129.
I. V. P.C. Kulneton, 129. I. R. P.C. Crawcombe, 130. I. R. P.C. Lamyate, 131. I. R. P.C. Rowbarowe, 131.
C. Two Chambers in Vicars' Close, Wells, 132.
I. R. P.C. Radyngton, 132. Charter of Advowson of P.C. Radyngton, 133.
I. V. P.C. Somerton, 134.

General Orders conferred in Chapel of B. V. M., next the Cloister of Cath. Wells, by Thomas, B. of Tinos, on behalf and by authority of Richard, Bishop B. and W., on the Saturday of the Four Seasons, viz., 16th June, 1492, 135.
Acolytes, Subdeacons, Deacons, 135. Priests, 136.
General Orders conferred on the Saturday of the Four Seasons, in Conv. Ch. of Hospital, S. John Bap., Wells, ut s., viz., 22nd September, 1492, 138.
Acolytes, Deacons, 138. Priests, 139.
General Orders conferred ut s., on the Saturday of the Four Seasons, viz. 2nd March, 1492, 140.
Acolytes, 140. Subdeacons, 141. Deacons, 142. Priests, 143.
General Orders conferred in Conventual Church of Hospital of St. John the Baptist, Wells, ut s., on the Saturday on which is chanted the office of the Mass "Sitientes," viz., 23rd March, 1492, 144.
Acolytes, Subdeacons, 144. Deacons, 145. Priests, 146.
General Orders conferred in P.C. of S. John Baptist, Axbridge, ut s., Holy Trinity Eve, viz., 1st June, 1493, 147.
Acolytes, Subdeacons, 147. Deacons, 148. Priests, 148.
General Orders conferred in Conventual Church of the Blessed Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul of Mochelney, ut s., viz., 21st September, 1493, 150.

Acolytes, Subdeacons, 150. Deacons, Priests, 151.
General Orders conferred in Conventual Church of Hospital of St. John Baptist, Wells, ut s., viz., 22nd Feb., 1493–4, 152.
Acolytes, Subdeacons, 152. Deacons, 153. Priests, 154.
General Orders conferred in Conventual Church of Hospital of St. John Baptist, Wells, ut s., on Holy Saturday in Easter Eve, viz., 29th March, 1494, 155.
Acolytes, Subdeacons, Deacons, 155. Priests, 155.
General Orders conferred, ut s., viz., 20th September, 1494, 157.
Acolytes, Subdeacons, 157. Deacons, 158. Priests, 159.

Register of Elections happening in time of Richard, D.G. Bishop of Bath and Wells, 160.
Decree of Election of Prior of Berlich, 160. Supplication or Petition for consent of Prior of Taunton, 165. Subscription of Notary, 156. Sentence of Confirmation, 157. Oath of Canonical Obedience, 167. Letter [to the Subprior and Convent] of Intendence (*i.e.*, obedience), 168. Letter Testimonial of the Confirmation (of election), 169.
Provision or Appointment of Abbot of Glastonbury, 170. Oath of Canonical Obedience, 171. Mandate to Induct and Install, 172.

ALPHABETICAL TABLE OF BENEFICES AND LAY PATRONS.

Aungereslegh, R., v. Newton.
Ashton Long, Ch., v. Chocke.
Audley, James Lord, Radyngton R., 132.
Aysholt, R., v. Courtenay.
Arundel, John, Esq., of Trerice, Luccombe, R., 75.

Banwell, v. Bray.
Bray, Reginald, Kt., Banwell, V., *hac vice*, 87.
Bratton, Nicholas, Esq , Kyttenor, R., 33.

Cadbury, South, R., v. Hastings.
Carhampton, V., v. Luttrell.
Champneys, Harry, Esq., Orchardley, R., 26.
Chard, V., v. Paulet.
Courtenay, John, Esq., Aysholt, R., 36.
Chocke, John, Esq., Chantry in Long Ashton, P.C., 62.
Chesilborough, v. Twynyho, Alienora.
Carnock, John, Clerk, R. Stowell, and J. Moore, Ch. Comb. Florey, h. v., 68.
Charlecombe, R., v. Thomas Morgan.
Combe Florey, Ch., v. Carnock.
Crosties, Roger, Esq., R. Shirbourne, and T. Chanceler, Lamyate, R., h. v., 131.
Cobham, John Lord, Lucton, R., 86.

Chanceler, Thomas, v. Crosties.

Dorset, Marquess of, Sokke, R., 5.

Earnshill, R., v. Richmond, Countess of.
Estham Free Chapel, v. Haggy.
Ediall, Henry, Clerk and R., Eliot, h. v., Spaxton, R., 44.
Eliot, Richard, Gent., v. Ediall.

Fitzwaryn, Elizabeth Lady, and John Sapcote, Kt., Norton, R., 96.
Frome, Ch., v. Twynyho, Roger.

Gose Braden, Curacy, v. Marshall.
Gorges, Edmund, Kt., Wroxale, R., 39.

Hastings, Edward, Kt., Lord, South Cadbury, R., 128.
Hungerford, Walter, Kt., Hungerford Farley, R., 12 and 83.
Hungerford Farley, R., v. Hungerford.
Haggy, John, Free Chapel of Estham, 61.
Henry VII, King, Meere V., h. v., 82, Yarlington, R., 82.
Hugyn, Johanna, h. v., Whitstanton, R., 46.

Ichelstoke, Ch., v. Paulet.

Kelly, Henry, Gent., Ore, R., 33.
Kyttenor, R., v. Bratton.

Luttrell, Hugh, Kt., and Prior of Dunster, h. v., P.C. Carhampton V., 94.
Luccombe, R., v. Arundel.
Lamyate, R., v. Crosties.
Lucton, R., v. Cobham.

Marshall, John, Esq., Curacy of Gose Braden, 73.
Meere, V., v. Henry VII.
Moore, John, Gent., v. Carnock.
Morton, Agneta, vid. Pitney, R., 32.

Newton, Lady Isabella, Aungereslegh, R., 67.
Norton, v. Fitzwaryn.

Oldmixton, William, Gent., h. v., Kuestoke, 47.
Orchardley, R., v. Champneys.
Ore, R., v. Kelly.

Paulet, Amias, Kt., h. v., Chard, V., 103, Ichelstoke, Ch., 14, Stawley, R., 13, Wyke, Ch., 27.
Pitney, R., v. Morton.
Porlock, Ch., v. Tremoyll.

Richmond, Margaret Countess of, Earnshill, R., 66.
Radyngton, R., v. Audley.

Sapcote, John, Kt., v. Fitzwaryn.
Shirbourne, Robert, v. Lamyate.
Spaxton, R., v. Ediall.
Stowell, Robert, Esq., v. Carnock.
Selworthy, R., v. Arundel.
Stawley, R., v. Paulet.
Sokke, R., v. Dorset.

Torney, John, Esq., Wolfcrington R., 36.
Tremoyll, Thomas, Esq., Ch., in Porlock, P.C., 58.
Thomas, Thomas, Esq., and Eliz. ux. Whatleigh, R., 67.
Thomas, Morgan, Charlecombe, R., 26.

Twynyho, Alienora, W., Chesilborowe, R., 70.
Twynyho, Roger, Esq., Ch. in Frome, P.C., 98.

Whatlegh, R., v. Thomas.
Whitstaunton, R., v. Hugyn.
Wolferington, R., v. Torney.
Wroxhale, R., v. Gorges.
Wyke, Ch., v. Paulet.

Yarlington, R., v. Henry VII.

INDEX TO REGISTER.

Abbots, Ly., v. Bedminster.

Advowson. Grants of, for one turn. Banwell, V., 87. Carhampton, 93. Chard, V., 103. Lamyate, R., 131. Radyngton, 133.

Arundel. Dean of Exeter appointed to Canonry in Wells Cathedral, 115. (afterwards Bishop of Exeter).

Auditor. Appointment of, for Bishop, 120 1.

Axbridge. Ordination in P.C. of St. John the Baptist, 147.
Exchange of, for Cudworth, 127.

Bailiff. Appointment of, for the Bishop's Liberties, 52.

Banwell. A Manumission of Serf of Manor, 54.

Berlich. Election of Prior, subsequent proceedings, 160–9.

Bedminster. Chapel of Ly Abbotes, 81.

Bere, v. Glastonbury.

Bridgwater. St. John's Hospital, Patron of, Northover, V., 41.

Bristol. Presentation to Mastership of St. John's Hospital, 88–92.
St. Augustine's Abbey. Patrons of, Poulett, V., 13. Of Rowbarowe, R., 131.
St. John's Hospital. Patrons of Budcombe, R., 58.

Cadbury, South. Inquiry concerning Patronage of, 128.

Canonical Possessor. Gose Braden Curacy, 73.

Canons' Houses, Wells. Grant of, to Canons, 77.

Cantlowe. Prior of Cathedral Church of Bath, 51.

Carhampton. Grant of Advowson of, h. v., from Bath Priory, 93.

Castle Cary. Inquisition concerning Patronage of, 21–23.

Chantries. St. Mary Ichelstoke, 14.
St. Margaret's Wyke, 27.
Porlock, 58.
Chocke's Long Ashton, 62.
Combflorye, 68.
St. Nicholas, Frome, 98.

Chapels. Ly Abbots, 81. Chelyngton, 99. Poulton and Feringdon, 123. Estham (Free), 61.

Chard. Vicar pensioned on Resignation, 103, 104.

Cheddar. A Manumission of Serf of Manor, 79.

Chelington. Right of Sepulture given to Chapel of St. James in Hamlet of; parish of South Petherton, 99.

Chew. Lease of Tithes of, for term, 118.

Chewton. Services in two Chapels of; one Chaplain only for, 123.

Claverton. Sir Amias Poulet, Keepership of Park, 110.

Commenda for Chantry, in P.C. Frome, 102.

Commissary-General. Appointment of, 15, 38.

Compton Martin. Licence for absence to Rector, 112.

Consecration of Church, v. Long Sutton.
Cudworth. Prebend exchanged for Axbridge, R., 127.

Daubeney, Sir Giles, Lord Daubeney grants Glebe to Chelyngton, 100.
Dedication Day. Change of, v. Kewstoke.
Dimissory Letters, 7, 37, 45, 78, 87.
Dispensations, Apostolic, to W. Drewe, 40; R. Spryng, 48; Thomas Roley, 71; Episcopal, to Rector of Capland, 122.
Dogmersfield, Bishop Fox at, Easter, 1493, 34.
Drayton Manor. Pension from, to Vicar of Chard resigning, 113.
Drewe, William, chaplain, presented to Rectory, Wraxhall, 39.
The Pope's dispensation to, as Brother of S. J. Hospital, Wells, 40.
Chaplain of Chocke's Chantry, 62.
Dykar, Robert, Notary Public, Proctor and Registrar of Consistory Court, 6, 97.

Exchanges. Laverton and Southstoke, 42, 43.
Cudworth and Axbridge, 127.

Feringdon, v. Chapels.

Glastonbury. R. Bere appointed Abbot and subsequent proceedings, 170–4.
Gunthorpe, J., Dean of Wells, 25, 51.
" " " 64, 111.

Halswell, N., M.D., Rector of Sokke, 5.
Harington's, Lord and Lady, Chantry at Porlock, 58.
Hinton, St. George, Rector, John Strete, Vicar of Chard, Rector of Capland, 122.
Hospitals, v. Bridgwater, Bristol, Wells.

Inquisitions, concerning Patronage. Castle Cary, 24; South Cadbury, 128; Selworthy, 18; Weston, 8; Wroxhale, 39.

Kewstoke. Vicar Pensioned, 47, 55.
Change of Dedication Day, 59.

Laverton. R., Exchange with Southstoke, V., 42, 43.
Licences. Absence for, 86, 113, to Monk to serve a chapel in Ly Abbots, 81. v. Pension.

Manumissions of Serf, v. Banwell and Woky, Cheddar.
Muchelney. Ordination in Conventual Church of, 150.

Nykke, R. Appointed Vicar-General, 1.
Grant to, of Land for a term, 53.
Collated Archdeacon of Wells (afterwards Bishop of Norwich), 95.

Ordinations. 135–159.

Paulton, v. Chapels.
Pennard, East. Reconciliation of the Church after pollution by bloodshed, 25.
Vicar pensioned, 116.
Pension. Licence to treat for on Resignation, 114.
Pensions. Chard, 103–4.
Somerton, 114.
Kewstoke, 47, 55.
Lydeard Epi, 17.
East Pennard, 116.
Petherton, v. Chelyngton.

Poulet, Sir Amias, appointed Seneschal or Chief Steward of Bishopric, 63.
Custodian of Claverton Park, 110.

Radyngton, Grant of the Advowson, h. v. to Lord Audley from Sir Wm. Say, 132.
Reconciliation, v. Pennard.
Registrar, Appointment of, v. Williamson.
Resignations, 6, 17, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, 37, 44, 57, 67, 70, 75, 78, 81, 82, 83, 86, 87, 95, 96, 115, 116, 117, 119, 130, 131.

St. Augustine's Order. Worspring Priory, 48. Taunton Priory, 1.
St. John. B. Wells. Hospital, 40.
St. John. B. Bristol. Bath, 131, 238.
Selworthy. Inquisition concerning Right of Patronage, 18–20.
Shirbourne, Robert, Clerk, 131 [afterwards Bishop of Chichester].
Southstoke, v. Laverton.
Speke, John, Esq., Sequestrator, 109.
Sprawlesmeade, alias, Burtle Priory, 144.
Seneschal or Chief Steward, v. Poulet.
Sutton, Long. Consecration of the Church, 46.

Temple Bar, the Bishop's house near, 5, 16.
Tinensis; Tenos, Thomas Cornish, Bishop of, 25, 26, 101, 135, 138, 140, 144, 147, 150, 152, 155, 157.
Vicar of Chew, 118.
Rector of Axbridge, 127.

Vicar-General, v. Nykke.

Warham, Precentor Wells (afterwards Archbishop), 70.
Wells. St. John Baptist Hospital, Conventual Church of, 40, 41.
Ordinations in, 138, 140, 144, 152, 155, 157.
Vicar's Close, Chambers in, 31–32, 45, 126, 132.
Cathedral appointments in, passim. Corpus Christi Chantry, Chaplain resigns, 37, 117.
Ordinations at St. Mary's juxta Cloister, 135.
Weston (Bath), v. Inquisitions.
Williamson, R., Vicar of Barowe, 31, 44. Registrar, 50.
Woky, v. Manumission.
Worsley, W., Archdeacon of Taunton, 28.

REGISTRUM RICARDI FOX,

BATHONIENSIS ET WELLENSIS EPISCOPI.

Incipit Registrum Reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi Fox, Dei gratia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ad ipsas ecclesias ab ecclesia Cathedrali Exoniensi Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ lxxxxij^o^ auctoritate apostolica translati, de diversis admissionibus, institucionibus, collacionibus, permutacionibus, aliisque literis et execucionibus jurisdiccionis sue ecclesiastice per ipsum et vicarium suum in spiritualibus generalem, ipso in remotis agente, eiusdem Reuerendi patris tempore ordinate factis et expeditis.

Comissio vicarii in spiritualibus generalis facta Magistro Ricardo Nykke utriusque juris doctori.

Ricardus permissione Diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, dilecto nobis in Christo Magistro Ricardo Nykke, utriusque juris doctori, ecclesie nostre Cathedralis Wellensis canonico et prebendario prebende de Yatton' in eadem, salutem, gratiam et benedictionem. Ad cognoscendum et procedendum in quibuscunque causis et negociis spiritualibus et ecclesiasticis, eciam ex officio mero, siue ad alicuius partis promocionem siue instanciam, eciam matrimonialibus et diuorcii, in consistorio nostro Wellensi hactenus inchoatis et motis, siue posthac inchoandis et mouendis, easque et ea cum omnibus et singulis siue incidentibus, emergentibus, dependentibus et connexis quibuscunque audiendum, examinandum, discutiendum, decidendumque et fine canonico terminan-

dum, ac que in hac parte legitime decreueritis debite executioni demandandum, et demandari faciendum, necnon testes qui fuerint nominati, si se gratia, odio vel timore subtraxerint, ad perhibendum testimonium veritati per censuras et penas ecclesiasticas canonice compellendum, ceteraque omnia et singula in premissis uel aliquo premissorum necessaria seu quomodolibet de jure requesita iuxta iuris exigenciam atque disposicionem exercendum et expediendum, vobis, de cuius sciencia virtute et circumspectionis industria in hiis et aliis quam plurimum confidimus, vices nostras committimus et plenam in Domino potestatem, vosque curie dicti nostri consistorii episcopalis Wellensis et nostrum officialem principalem preficimus, ordinamus et deputamus per presentes. Et cum preterea nos propter diuersa negocia dominum nostrum Regem statumque et defensionem vniuersalis ecclesie atque regni Anglie concernentia continuo in diocese nostra residere non possumus, de vestris fidelitate, scientia et circumspectionis industria predictis, vt prefertur, plurimum in Domino confidentes, vos vicarium nostrum in spiritualibus generalem ordinamus, creamus, facimus, constituimus et preficimus eciam per presentes, damusque et concedimus atque committimus in ea parte vobis vices nostras potestatemque generalem ac mandatum speciale quibuscunque religiosis infra diocesem nostram, cum eorum ecclesia vacauerit, licenciam eligendi concedendi et assensum electis prestandum dandi et prebendi, electiones quoque canonicas ac quosvis canonice electos et eligendos in quibuscunque monasteriis, prioratibus, domibus atque collegiis et locis nobis subditis cum suis juribus et pertinenciis vniuersis auctoritate nostra confirmandi, canoniceque instituendi et installandi, ac installari et in possessionem realem et corporalem induci mandandi, electiones insuper minus canonice factas et celebratas, si et prout de jure fuerit faciendum infirmandi, cassandi, et anullandi, necnon personas ydoneas ad quecunque beneficia in

nostris ciuitate et diocese qualitercunque vacantia et vacatura presentatas, simpliciter uel ex causa permutacionis fiende, uel ex quacunque alia causa, licenciam ad tractandum et communicandum de et super quacunque assignanda et limitanda annua pensione congrua de fructibus et obuencionibus cuiuscunque beneficii huiusmodi concedendi, et ad hoc fiendum consenciendi, ac quascunque ordinaciones de et super assignata pensione huiusmodi factas forsan et initas auctoritate nostra ordinaria sub quibusuis penis et censuris per quascunque partes vallatas, firmatas et emologatas roborandi et confirmandi, ac desuper decernendi; dictas insuper personas in beneficiis prefatis auctoritate nostra canonice instituendi cum suis juribus et pertinentiis vniuersis, ac in realem actualem et corporalem possessionem quorumcunque huiusmodi beneficiorum et suorum predictorum jurium et pertinentiorum vniuersorum inducendi, atque institui et induci mandandi, et faciendi; deque et super juribus patronatus quarumcunque ecclesiarum debite inquirendi ac inquiri faciendi; commissiones insuper pro expedicionibus ac expediendis negociis quarumcunque permutacionum alii ac aliis in debita juris forma concedendi, ac de et super eisdem in forma debita scribendi et committendi; quascunque insuper personas eciam regulares dignitates, prioratus, abbacias, officia et beneficia ecclesiastica quecunque in nostris predictis ciuitate et diocese illicite occupantes, seu quas a beneficiis et administracionibus suis ecclesiasticis de jure inveneritis seu noueritis per processum legitimum merito ammouendas, pro tempore aut pro perpetuo prout videritis destituendi, amouendi, et priuandi; monasteria quoque, prioratus, collegia, domos, hospitalia et alia loca pia quecunque nostre predicte diocesis tam in capite quam in membris, clerumque et populum eiusdem nostre diocesis actualiter visitandi, ac eos ad hoc conuocandi et congregandi, ac nostram iurisdiccionem in ea parte exercendi; ac de et super

heretica prauitate, crimineque ac criminibus heresis ac aliis criminibus et excessibus quorumcunque subditorum nostrorum eciam clericorum et laicorum quociens et quum visum fuerit expedire inquirendi; crimina quoque et excessus quorumcunque subditorum nostrorum eciam clericorum et laicorum eciam detecta et comperta quecunque canonice reformandi, corrigendi et puniendi; iniunctiones insuper in monasteriis domibus et locis religiosis iuxta effectum inquisicionum et visitacionum inibi forsan factarum et exercitarum, iuxtaque discretionem vobis a Deo datam faciendi et imponendi, penitentiam quoque condignam et salutarem nostris predictis subditis vtriusque sexus personas iuxta et secundum qualitatem et quantitatem delictorum eorum et excessuum pro commissis iniungendi; necnon clericis nostrarum predictarum ciuitatis et diocesis secularibus et regularibus, vt a quocunque episcopo Catholico Sedis Apostolice gratiam et executionem sui officii obtinente, tam ad minores quam omnes sacros ordines, eciam presbiteratus, licite valeatis promoueri, licenciam concedendi; ac cuicunque episcopo Catholico vt in ciuitate et diocese nostris tam minores quam omnes sacros ordines etiam presbiteratus tempore congruo et legitimo conferat, baptisatosque confirmet, ac oleum et crisma sanctum conficiat, eaque omnia et singula que sunt ordinis episcopalis ut exerceat et expediat auctoritatem et potestatem dandi et prestandi; in casibus insuper a jure nobis permissis cum nostris subditis dispensandi; penitentiarios insuper vnum vel plures deputandi, ordinandi, et proficiendi; clericos insuper quoscunque infra nostram jurisdiccionem super quibuscunque criminibus irretitos seu conuictos et conuincendos, qui de iure et secundum regni Anglie consuetudines gaudere debeant priuilegio clericali, vt moris est, per vos aliumve aut alios vendicandi, petendi, et recipiendi; ac super hoc alii uel aliis persone aut personis ydoneis, prout videritis expedire, in forma requisita com-

mittendi, purgacionemque eorundem clericorumque conuictorum cum expedire videritis recipiendi, et admittendi; omnem insuper et omnimodam nostram iurisdiccionem spiritualem et ecclesiasticam de iure expressam tam in genere quam in specie vbilibet in dioceso nostra gerendi, exercendi, et expediendi; necnon omnia alia et singula de iure et consuetudine sub officio vicarii generalis aut officialis principalis cadencia ac cadere debencia, et que ad officia illa incumbere et pertinere dinoscuntur de iure et consuetudine huiusmodi faciendi, eciam que nos faceremus vel facere possemus si personaliter in diocese nostra presentes essemus, exercendi, gerendi et expediendi; ac que vos in premissis uel aliquo premissorum decreueritis, de iure expediendi, ac debite executioni demandandi.

In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum presentibus apposuimus. Datum in Hospicio nostro extra Barras Noui Templi in Suburbiis London', x^mo^ die mensis Maii Anno Domini Millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo ij^do^ et nostre translationis anno primo.

Institucio Rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Sokke.

Vicesimo vj^to^ die dicti mensis Maii Anno Domini suprascripto. Antedictus Magister Ricardus Nykke, Supradicti Reuerendi in Christo patris domini Ricardi translati Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, auctoritate officii huiusmodi sibi commissi, in domo solite sue residencie Wellie, venerabilem virum Magistrum Nicholaum Halswell' in Medicinis doctorem, ad ecclesiam parochialem de Soke, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem naturalem domini Roberti Spycer vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per egregium virum dominum Thomam Marchionem Dorsett', dominum Ferrarium de Groby ac dominum de Asteley, Haryngton et Bonfyld, verum eiusdem

ecclesie patronum, eidem vicario in spiritualibus generali presentatus extitit, admisit in persona Roberti Dykar procuratoris sui sufficienter et legitime in ea parte constituti, ipsumque rectorem instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis, curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus Bathoniensibus et Wellensibus, ecclesiarumque cathedralium ibidem dignitate in omnibus semper saluis. Et prestito per dictum procuratorem nomine domini sui antedicti canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali sub forma consueta.

Collacio ecclesie parochialis de Westammell' et institucio in eadem.

Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, dilecto nobis in Christo domino Thome Shelyngford, presbitero, salutem, gratiam et benedictionem. Ecclesiam parochialem de Westecammell' nostre diocesis, per liberam et spontaneam resignacionem domini Andree Grantham, ultimi rectoris eiusdem, vacantem, et ad nostram collacionem pleno iure spectantem, tibi conferrimus intuitu caritatis, teque rectorem instituimus canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis, curam animarum parochianorum eiusdem ecclesie tibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et dignitate ecclesiarum nostrarum cathedralium Bathoniensis et Wellensis, in omnibus semper saluis. Datum sub sigillo nostro in hospicio nostro extra Barras Noui Templi in Suburbiis ciuitatis London' xxvij^{mo} die mensis Maii, Anno Domini Millesimo cccc^{mo} nonagesimo ij^{do} et nostre translationis anno primo.

Et incontinenter idem admissus et institutus super sancta Dei euuangelia per ipsum corporaliter tacta, prestitit iuramentum quod

ipse erit fidelis et obediens prefato Reuerendo in Christo patri et domino, ipsiusque successoribus canonice intrantibus, ac eorum officiariis et ministris quibuscumque in licitis et canonicis mandatis. Hincinde scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali, vt est moris.

Litere dimissorie in forma.

Item, antedictus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis concessit literas dimissorias Johanni Fyttoke, accolito, quas idem Johannes obtinuit sub hac forma:—Ricardus Nykke, vtriusque juris doctor, Canonicus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ac Reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso Reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, dilecto nobis in Christo Johanni Fyttoke, accolito, in parochia de Schepton Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis oriundo, salutem in Domino. Vt a quocunque episcopo Catholico gratiam Sedis Apostolice et executionem sui officii obtinente, tibique sacras manus imponere volente, ad omnes ordines tam sacros quam non sacros quos nondum es assecutus, licite valeas promoueri, eo non obstante quod de dicta diocese Bathoniensi et Wellensi oriundus existis, dum tamen natalibus, moribus et etate inuentus fueris ydoneus, titulumque sufficientem exhibueris, et aliud canonicum non obsistat, tam tibi recipiendi quam episcopo huiusmodi ordines conferendi memoratas, liberam tenore presencium concedimus facultatem. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum officii nostri presentibus apposuimus. Datum Wellie, iiij^{to} die mensis Junii, Anno Domini Millesimo cccc^{mo} nonagesimo ij^{do} et translationis dicti reuerendi patris anno primo.

Litere dimissorie in forma consueta.

Item, viij^{o} die mensis et anni predictorum, Idem Magister

Ricardus Nykke, vicarius generalis prelibatus, apud Welliam concessit domino Nicholao Mounte, diacono, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, vt a quocunque episcopo Catholico recipere valeat presbiteratus ordinem quem nondum est assecutus.

Inquisicio facta de et super jure patronatus ecclesie parrochialis de Weston'.

Venerabili ac circumspecto viro Magistro Ricardo Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctori, Canonico ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ac Reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso Reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicario in spiritualibus generali, vester humilis et devotus Robertus Olyver, rector ecclesie parochialis de Pryston', vester commissarius ad infra scripta specialiter et legitime deputatus, omnimodam obedientiam et reuerenciam debitas cum honore. Literas vestras, Reuerende, nuper cum ea qua decuit reuerencia, recepi sub forma que sequitur tenoris verborum :—Ricardus Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctor, Canonicus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ac Reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso Reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, prouido viro domino Roberto Olyver Rectori ecclesie parochialis de Priston, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, salutem in omnium Saluatore. Cum nuper religiosi viri Prior et Conventus ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis, dominum Johannem Chauncelor ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parrochialis de Weston' dicte Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis per mortem naturalem domini Johannis Phylips nuper vicarii eiusdem, vacantem, ut asseritur, et ad eorum presentationem, vti pretendunt, spectantem, nobis presentarunt. Nos dictis presentantibus et presentato iusticie complementum cum

debito fauore ministrare volentes, de iureque patronatus illius ecclesie et ipsius iuris possessione modoque et forma vacacionis eiusdem cerciores effici cupientes, ad procedendum et diligenter inquirendum, vocatis primitus iuxta iuris exigenciam omnibus et singulis in hac parte de iure vocandis, de et super huiusmodi patronatus iure et possessione, de modoque et forma vacacionis eiusdem :—videlicet quis illius ecclesie verus sit patronus, aut qui sunt veri patroni. Quis aut qui vltimum dicte ecclesie vicarium presentauit aut presentauerit ad eandem. Ad quem seu ad quos aut quo titulo ius presentandi ad ipsam ecclesiam hac vice pertineat, ac qualiter, et a quo tempore illa vacavit, de ceterisque articulis et circumstanciis in tali negocio inquiri consuetis in ecclesia parrochiali de Weston' antedicta, per rectores, vicarios ad omnes minus sex in numero, et alios sex viros honestos et fidedignos, premissam noticiam veresimiliter meliorem habentes, in forma iuris iuratos et examinatos die aliquo certo per vos qui presens nostrum mandatum duxeritis exequendum, vobis assumpto aliquo notario indifferenti in scribam, ceteraque omnia et singula in tali negocio necessaria seu quomodolibet oportuna faciendi, et exercendi, vobis de cuius fidelitate et circumspectionis industria satis confidimus, vices nostras ac plenam in Domino facultatem cum cuiuslibet cohercionis canonice exequendique que in hac parte decreueritis potestate. Et quid feceritis in premissis, nos quam cicius comode poteritis certificetis per literas vestras potentes clausas harum literarum nostrarum et inquisicionis vestre seriem, vna cum nominibus et cognominibus earum personarum per quas inquiri contigerit, plenarie continentes sigillo autentico consignatas. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum officii nostri presentibus apposuimus. Datum in domo nostre solite residencie Wellie, vj^{to} die mensis Junii, Anno Domini Millesimo cccc^{mo}, nonagesimo ij^{do}. Post quarum quidem literarum vestrarum receptionem et oneris

earundem in me Robertum Olyver assumpcionem, earum auctoritate et vigore vocatis in hac parte omnibus et singulis suum putantibus interesse et de iure vocandi[s] in genere, de et super patronatus et advocacionis iuris ecclesie parrochialis de Weston predicte, necnon de et super omnibus et singulis articulis in literis commissionis mee antedicte specificatis, in ecclesia parrochiali predicta, octavo die mensis Junii, Anno Domini supradicto, ad officium inquisicionis huiusmodi fiendum prefixo et assignato, per circumspectos viros dominum Robertum Alday, Magistrum domus sive Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bathonie; Magistrum Johannem Lord, vicarium perpetuum ecclesie parrochialis de Batheston'; dominum Johannem Woode, rectorem ecclesie Beate Marie infra Portam Borialem civitatis Bathonie; dominum Willelmum Rogers, Thomam Chauncelor, Johannem Cokkes, Johannem Weuer, Johannem Slegge, Thomam Rynge, Johannem Hardyng, et Willelmum Tybott, viros fidedignos, vicinos veritatis noticiam in hac parte veresimiliter obtinentes, coram me citatos comparentes, de veritate premissorum dicenda in forma iuris iuratos, inquisicionem feci diligenter pariter et fidelem. Qui quidem iurati per eorum Sacramenta prestita dicunt, asserunt et affirmant, quod dicta ecclesia parrochialis de Weston' vacat et incepit vacari xxix^{mo} die mensis Maii, Anno Domini Millesimo cccc^{mo}, nonagesimo ij^{do}, per mortem naturalem domini Johannis Philips, vltimi vicarii eiusdem. Dicunt eciam quod venerabiles ac religiosi viri prior et conventus ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis sunt veri patroni eiusdem ecclesie parrochialis de Weston iure et titulo. Et quidam venerabilis in Christo pater dompnus Willelmus Sothbroke, quondam prior dicte ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis et eiusdem loci conventus, presentarunt dictum dominum Johannem Phylyps vltimum vicarium eiusdem. Dicunt insuper quod venerabiles ac religiosi viri prior et conventus ecclesie

Cathedralis Bathoniensis fuerunt et sunt in pacifica possessione iuris presentandi. Quam quidem inquisicionem sic, vt premittitur, per me vestra auctoritate in forma iuris captam sigillo officii officialitatis venerabilis viri domini Archidiaconi Bathoniensis, quod ad manus habetur, impresso et pendente, et eorum per quos huiusmodi inquisicio capta fuerit sigillis pendentibus consignatam, ipsorum nomina et cognomina ac vestre commissionis tenorem in se continentem circumspectionem transmitto. In fidem et testimonium omnium et singulorum premissorum, assumpto michi in huiusmodi inquisicionis negocio Magistro Willelmo Fluett, Notario Publico, in scribam. Datum in ecclesia parrochiali de Weston' antedicta die et anno supradicto.

Institucio vicarii Ecclesie parrochialis de Weston'.

Decimo die mensis Junii Anno Domini supradicto prefatus vicarius generalis apud Welliam Dominum Johannem Chanceler capellanum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parrochialis de Weston' Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis per mortem naturalem domini Johannis Philips vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos viros priorem et conventum veros dicte ecclesie patronos dicto vicario generali presentatus extitit, in persona sua propria admisit, ac vicarium perpetuum de continuo et personaliter residendo in eadem, iuxta exigenciam constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum iuratum, canonice instituit in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parrochianorum ipsius ecclesie parrochialis sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et prestito per eundem admissum canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Bathoniensi seu eius officiali vt est moris.

Institucio Rectoris Ecclesie parrochialis de Farley Hungerford.

Item, vicesimo sexto die mensis Junii, Anno Domini supradicto, antenominatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis apud Welliam, dominum Thomam Wer, capellanum, ad ecclesiam parrochialem de Farley Hungurford, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Walteri Elyot, vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per egregium virum Walterum Hungurford militem, dicte ecclesie verum patronum, dicto vicario generali extitit presentatus, in persona sua propria admisit, ac rectorem instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parrochianorum ipsius ecclesie parrochialis sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et prestito per dictum dominum Thomam canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali, vt est moris.

Institucio vicarii Ecclesie parrochialis de Lydearde Episcopi.

Item, penultimo Junii Anno Domini sepedicto, antefatus vicarius generalis apud Welliam, dominum Johannem Aleyn', vicarium choralem ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parrochialis de Lydeard episcopi, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles viros decanum et capitulum dicte ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis veros dicte ecclesie patronos dicto vicario generali presentatus extitit, in persona sua propria admisit, ac vicarium perpetuum de continuo et personaliter residendo in eadem iuxta exigenciam constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum iuratum, instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parrochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius comittendo,

iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et prestito per eundem dominum Johannem Aleyn', admissum canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione decano et capitulo ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis seu eorum officiali.

Institucio vicarii Ecclesie parrochialis de Poulett.

Item, xviij die mensis Julii, Anno Domini supradicto, antefatus vicarius generalis apud Welliam, dominum Johannem Cutteler capellanum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parrochialis de Poulett, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Johannis Edwardes vltimi et immediati vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos viros Abbatem et Conventum Monasterii Sancti Augustini iuxta Bristolliam veros dicte vicarie patronos eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria, et vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continuo inibi residendo iuxta exigenciam constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum primitus iuratum, instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem domino Johanne Cutteler canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Welleusi seu eius officiali vt moris est.

Institucio rectoris Ecclesie parrochialis de Staulegh.

Item, vicesimo die mensis Julii, Anno Domini supradicto, antefatus vicarius generalis apud Welliam, dominum Johannem Sewell, capellanum, ad ecclesiam parrochialem de Staulegh, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Willelmi

Rose vltimi et immediati rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per egregium virum Amisium Powlett militem, dicte ecclesie patronum, prefato vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria et rectorem instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parrochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et prestito per eundem admissum et institutum canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali, vt moris est.

Institucio capellani cantarie perpetue Sancte Marie de Ichelstoke.

Item, septimo die mensis Augusti Anno Domini supradicto memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, apud Welliam, dominum Robertum Macy capellanum ad cantariam perpetuam Beate Marie de Ichestoke, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, vacantem, ad quam per egregium virum Amisium Poulett militem, verum dicte cantarie patronum, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, in persona sua propria admisit et capellanum perpetuum de obseruando statuta et ordinaciones ipsius cantarie iuxta fundacionem et ordinacionem eiusdem iuratum, instituit canonice in et de eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam, regimen et administracionem illius cantarie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et prestito per dictum dominum Robertum Macy canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali, vt est moris.

Institucio vicarii Ecclesie parrochialis de Frome.

Vltimo die mensis Augusti Anno Domini supradicto, memo-

ratus vicarius generalis apud Welliam, dominum Robertum Olyver presbiterum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parrochialis de Frome, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam et spontaneam resignacionem domini Johannis Cantloo, prioris ecclesie Cathedralis Bathonie, vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos viros, Abbatem et Conventum Monasterii Beate Marie Virginis Cirencestr', ordinis sancti Augustini, veros dicte vicarie patronos eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria et vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continuo inibi residendo iuxta exigenciam constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum primitus iuratum instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis, curam animarum parrochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem Domino Roberto Olyver canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali.

Commissio Commissarii Generalis.

Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, dilecto nobis in Christo filio Magistro Ricardo Docheson in vtroque iure bacallario salutem, gratiam et benedictionem. Cuncta nobis detecta commissa personaliter exercere non valentes, ac de tuis circumspectione et industria plurimum in Domino confidentes, ad cognoscendum et procedendum in omnibus et singulis causis et negociis ex officio nostro mero, mixto, seu promoto, contra subditos infra nostras ciuitatem et diocesem, necnon infra nostram peculiarem iurisdiccionem de Cherd, Chewe et Wellyngton' delinquentes, uel eorum aliquem uel aliquos motis uel mouendis; de quibus criminibus et excessibus quorumcunque subditorum nostrorum huiusmodi quociens opus fuerit inquirendum; criminaque et defectus subditorum nostrorum huiusmodi corrigendum puni-

endum et reformandum, penitentiasque condignas eis et eorum cuilibet pro commissis iniungendum ; ac testamenta et ultimas defunctorum voluntates vbicunque infra nostram diocesem, quorum testamentorum et vltimarum voluntatum probacio, approbacio et insinuacio ad nos de iure at consuetudine pertineant, probandum, approbandum et insinuandum ; et pro valore huiusmodi testamentorum et vltimarum voluntatum pronunciandum ; administracionesque bonorum subditorum huiusmodi testancium, et ab intestato decedencium, illis quibus de iure fuerit committendum in debita iuris forma committendum ; compotumque, calculum et raciocinium administracionis huiusmodi audiendum et recipiendum ; ac soluentes quoscunque liberandum et acquietandum ; necnon fructus et prouentus, iuraque et emolumenta quorumcunque beneficiorum infra ambitum nostrarum diocesis et iurisdiccionis peculiaris predictarum, et alia bona quecunque subditorum nostrorum huiusmodi in casibus a iure et consuetudine permissis, vocatis de iure vocandis, legitime sequestrandum, ac eas et ea sub arto et securo custodire sequestro mandandum et faciendum ; ceteraque omnia et singula faciendum, exercendum et expediendum que in premissis et circa ea necessaria fuerint seu quomodolibet oportuna. Et que ad huiusmodi comissariatus officium qualitercumque noscuntur pertinere, tibi tenore presencium committimus vices nostras, teque commissarium nostrum generalem ac peculiaris iurisdiccionis nostre antedicte officialem cum cohercionis cuiuslibet canonice potestate prefecimus et deputamus per presentes ad nostrum beneplacitum duraturas. Datum sub sigillo nostro in manerio nostro extra Barras Noui Templi ciuitatis London' primo die mensis Septembris, Anno Domini Millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo ij^do^ et nostre translationis anno primo.

Institucio vicarii Ecclesie parrochialis de Lydearde episcopi.

Item, vicesimo vj^to^ die mensis Septembris Anno Domini suprascripto, antefatus vicarius generalis apud Welliam dominum Thomam Webber presbiterum, vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parrochialis de Lydearde episcopi, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam et spontaneam resignacionem domini Johannis Alyen' vltimi et immediati vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles viros decanum et capitulum ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, veros eiusdem vicarie patronos, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria, et vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continuo inibi residendo, necnon de fideliter soluendo annuatim dicto domino Johanni Alyen' dictam vicariam resignanti, quamdiu idem Johannes Aleyn' vixerit in humanis, annuam pensionem xxs. ad ij^or^ anni terminos equis porcionibus, videlicet, ad festa Pasche et Sancti Michaelis Archangeli, primitus iuratum instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parrochianorum ipsius ecclesie parrochialis sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem domino Thoma Webber canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione decano et capitulo dicte ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis seu eorum officiali.

Institucio vicarii de Pytmyster.

Item, secundo die mensis Octobris, Anno Domini suprascripto, antefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis in ecclesia conuentuali de Bruton', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, dominum Johannem Leveson capellanum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parrochialis de Pytmyster, dicte Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Johannis Sweyn' vltimi et immediati vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos viros

priorem et conuentum prioratus de Taunton veros eiusdem vicarie patronos eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria et vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continuo inibi residendo, iuxta vim formam et effectum constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum, primitus iuratum, instituit canonice in et de eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parrochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem domino Johanne Leveson canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali vt est moris.

Processus Inquisicionis facte de et super jure ecclesie parrochialis de Selworthy.

Quarto die mensis Septembris Anno Domini supradicto, antefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis in ecclesia parrochiali de Selworthy, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, auctoritate et vigore officii sui huiusmodi, ad effectum subscriptum iudicialiter sedens, inquisicionem fecit debitam et canonicam de et super iure ecclesie parrochialis de Selworthy predicte per inquisitores viros discretos et in ea parte ydoneos: videlicet, sex rectores et vicarios et alios sex viros laicos honestos et fidedignos dicte ecclesie viciniores, iuris patronatus illius ecclesie et aliorum articulorum in tali negocio haberi et inquiri consuetorum, et de iure debitam noticiam veresimiliter meliorem obtinentes, in forma iuris iuratos et examinatos, vocatis primitus iuxta iuris exigenciam per monicionem legitimam in ecclesia parrochiali antedicta factam, omnibus et singulis ius aut interesse aliquod in ea parte habentibus seu habere pretendentibus. Qui quidem inquisitores asserunt et affirmant quod dicta ecclesia parrochialis de Selworthy vacauit et vacare incepit mense Julii vltimo transacto per mortem domini Johannis

Colyng' vltimi rectoris eiusdem, quo die pretacti mensis Julii non recolunt. Etiam dicunt quod Johannes Vogge miles vltimo presentauit ad eandem in iure Alicie vxoris Willelmi Saynte Johan. Et quod Johannes Arundell' Treres Armiger est verus patronus eiusdem ecclesie, et habet ius presentandi hac vice iure hereditario. Et quod idem Johannes est seisitus in manerio de Estluccombe cum suis pertinentiis, vna cum aduocacionibus ecclesiarum parrochialium de Estluccombe et Selworthy in dominico suo vt de feodo talliato. Et quod eadem ecclesia parrochialis de Selworthy est pensionaria Monasterio de Athelney in xls. per annum, et collegio de Eton' in xx.s. ac porcionaria ecclesie parrochiali de Estluccombe ad valorem octo uel xs. communibus annis. Insuper quod non obuiat aliquid nec obest presentanti aut presentato predicto de canonicis institutis. Et quod presentatus ad eandem ecclesiam per sepedictum Johannem Arundell' Armigerum, est liber, legitimus et ydoneus in ordine sacerdotali ac etate legitima constitutus. Eciam est alibi beneficiatus, quia est rector ecclesie parrochialis sancte Ladoce, ac porcionarius porcionis de Clare in ecclesia parrochiali de Twyuerton, Exoniensis diocesis; preteria quod non est aliqua paccio siue simoniaca prauitas inter presentantem et presentatum vt dicunt. Insuper dicunt quod pretensa aduocacio Roberti Arundell' facta Johanni Bryswod et Thome Vpcote coniunctim et diuisim de ecclesia parrochiali predicta nullius est effectus, nec vllum debet sortiri effectum de iure, pro eo et ex eo, quod quidam Willelmus Saynte Johan, Armiger, fuit seisitus in manerio de Estluccombe cum pertinentiis, vna cum aduocacionibus ecclesiarum parrochialium de Estluccombe et Selworthy in dominico suo vt de feodo talliato; et cepit in vxorem quandam Aliciam et siue heredibus de corpore suo seisitus decessit, post cuius mortem dicta Alicia fuit seisita in manerio de Estluccombe cum pertinentiis, vna cum aduocacionibus predictis in dominico suo vt

de libero tenemento racione dotis sue, ex dotacione ipsius Willelmi Saynte Johan, viri et mariti sui. Post cuius Alicie mortem dictum manerium de Estluccombe per (cum) pertinentiis vna cum aduocacionibus ecclesiarum predictarum accreuit dicto Johanni Arundell' armigero, vt consanguinio et proximo heredi dicti Willelmi Saynte Johan, et quia illud manerium de Estluccombe cum pertinentiis, vna cum aduocacionibus predictis erat talliatus, vt in forma predicta; et similiter predicta Alicia erat seisita vt premittitur tempore concessionis aduocacionis facte per dictum Robertum de eadem. Ac eadem Alicia predictum Robertum superuixit, qua de re dicta aduocacio nullum debet de iure sortiri effectum vt dicunt.

Institucio ecclesie parrochialis de Selworthy.

Item, xxij^{mo} die mensis Octobris, Anno Domini suprascripto, sepedictus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis apud Welliam, dominum Radulphum Henkes, presbiterum, ad ecclesiam parrochialem de Selworthy, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Johannis Colyng', vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per prouidum virum Johannem Arundell' Trerise, armigerum, verum eiusdem ecclesie patronum, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona Johannis Glover literati, et rectorem instituit canonice in et de eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniueris; curam animarum parrochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem Johanne canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Taunton seu eius officiali vt moris est.

Processus inquisicionis facte de et super iure patronatus ecclesie parrochialis de Castelcary.

Venerabili ac circumspecto viro Magistro Ricardo Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctori, canonico ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ac reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicario in spiritualibus generali, vester humilis et deuotus Ricardus Docheson, in vtroque iure bacallarius, vester ad infrascripta commissarius specialiter et legitime deputatus, omnimodam obedientiam et reuerenciam cum honore. Literas vestras reuerendas cum ea qua decuit reuerencia recepi sub eo qui sequitur tenore verborum:—Ricardus Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctor, canonicus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis ac reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, dilecto nobis in Christo Magistro Ricardo Docheson, in vtroque jure bacallario, dicti reuerendi patris per dictam suam Bathoniensem et Wellensem diocesem commissario ac sequestratori generali, salutem in omnium Saluatore. Cum nuper venerabiles et religiosi viri Prior et conuentus ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis, dominum Willelmum Lutte presbiterum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parrochialis de Castelcary, dicte Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Nicholai Whethyll', vltimi vicarii eiusdem, vt asseritur, vacantem et ad earum presentacionem, vti pretendunt, spectantem, nobis presentarunt. Nos igitur dictis presentanti et presentato iusticie complementum cum fauore debito ministrare volentes, de iureque patronatus illius ecclesie et ipsius iuris possessione, modoque et forma vacacionis eiusdem cerciores effici cupientes, ad procedendum et dili-

genter inquirendum, vocatis primitus in hac parte de iure vocandis, de et super huiusmodi patronatus iure et possessione, de modoque et forma vacacionis eiusdem; videlicet, quis illius ecclesie verus sit patronus, aut qui sint veri patroni; quis aut qui vltimum dicte vicarie vicarium presentauerit seu presentauerint ad eandem; necnon ad quem seu quos et quo titulo ius presentandi ad ipsam vicariam hac vice pertineat; ac qualiter et a quo tempore illa vacauit, de ceterisque articulis et circumstanciis in tali negocio inquiri et haberi consuetis in ecclesia parrochiali de Castelcary predicta nono die mensis Nouembris proximo futuro, per rectores et vicarios ad omnes minus sex in numero, et alios sex viros laicos honestos et fidedignos premissorum noticiam veresimiliter meliorem habentes, in forma iuris iuratos et examinatos, assumpto Magistro Roberto Dykar notario publico in scribam, ceteraque omnia et singula in tali negocio necessaria seu quomodolibet oportuna faciendo et exercendo, vobis de cuius fidelitate et circumspectionis industria satis confidimus, committimus vices nostras ac plenam in Domino facultatem cum cuiuslibet cohercionis canonice exequendique que in hac parte decreueritis potestate. Et quid feceritis in premissis nos quam cicius commode poteritis debite certificetis per literas vestras clausas harum literarum nostrarum inquisicionis vestre seriem, vna cum nominibus et cognominibus earum personarum per quas inquiri contigerit, plenarie continentes, sigillo autentico ac ipsorum inquisitorum sigillis pendentibus consignatas. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum officii nostri presentibus apponi fecimus. Datum Wellie, j^{mo} die mensis Nouembris, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^{mo} nonagesimo ij^{do} et translationis dicti reuerendi patris anno primo. Post quarum quidem literarum vestrarum recepcionem, et oneris earundem in me Ricardum Docheson', assumpsionem, earum auctoritate et vigore, vocatis omnibus et singulis suum putantibus

interesse et de iure vocandis in genere, de et super iure patronatus ecclesie parrochialis de Castelcary predicte, necnon super omnibus et singulis in literis commissionis mee antedicte specificatis in ecclesia parrochiali predicta, nono die instantis mensis Nouembris, Anno Domini suprascripto ad effectum inquisicionis huiusmodi fiendum, prefixo et assignato per prouidos viros dominos Thomam Davell' rectorem de Maperton, dominum Johannem Samford, rectorem de Almsfford, Rectorem Osborn, rectorem de Sowthe Cadebery, Willelmum Goodwyn, rectorem de Blaeford, Willemum Whebbery, rectorem de Halton, Thomam Saweer, rectorem de Northeborow, necnon prouidos et honestos viros Ricardum Wych, Willelmum Mabbeley, Hugonem Ragland, Willelmum Feyrman, Ricardum Rowell, et Walterum Pole, veritatis noticiam veresimiliter in hac parte obtinentes, coram me citatos comparentes de veritate premissorum dicenda in forma iuris iuratos, inquisicionem feci diligentem pariter et fidelem. Qui quidem iurati per eorum sacramenta prestita dicunt, quod dicta ecclesia parrochialis de Castelcary vacat et vacare incepit vj^to^ die mensis Octobris vltimo elapso per mortem naturalem domini Nicholai Jonys alias Whethyll vltimi vicarii eiusdem. Dicunt eciam quod venerabiles et religiosi viri prior et conuentus ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis sunt veri patroni eiusdem ecclesie parrochialis de Castelcary iure et titulo suis. Et quidem venerabilis in Christo pater dompnus Willelmus Sowthbroke quondam prior dicte ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis et eiusdem loci conuentus presentarunt dictum dominum Nicholaum Jonys alias Harrys vltimum vicarium eiusdem. Insuper dicunt quod venerabiles ac religiosi viri prior et conuentus dicte ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis fuerunt et sunt in pacifica possessione iuris presentandi. Et quod dictus dominus Willelmus modo presentatus est liber, legitimus et ydoneus, ac in ordine sacerdotali constitutus, et quod habet pre-

bendam in ecclesia collegiata Salopie. Quam quidem inquisicionem sic, vt premittitur, per me vestra auctoritate in hac parte captam sigillo officii comissariatus Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, quod ad manus habetur, impresso et pendente, et eorum per quos huiusmodi inquisicio capta fuit sigillis pendentibus consignatam, ipsorum nomina et cognomina ac vestre commissionis tenorem in se continentem transmitto in fidem et testimonium omnium et singulorum premissorum, assumpto mihi in huiusmodi inquisicionis negocio notario publico mihi demandato in scribam. Datum in ecclesia parrochiali de Castelcary antedicta, die et anno supradictis.

Institucio vicarii ecclesie parrochialis de Castelcary.

Item, x^mo^ die mensis Nouembris, Anno Domini predicto, memoratus vicarius generalis in domo sue solite residencie Wellie, dominum Willelmum Lutte capellanum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parrochialis de Castelcary, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Nicholai Whethyll' alias Harrys, vltimi vicarii eiusdem, vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos viros priorem et conuentum ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis veros dicte ecclesie patronos prefato vicario in spiritualibus generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria, ac vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continue inibi residendo, iuxta exigenciam constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum, iuratum, instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parrochianorum ipsius ecclesie parrochialis sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus, etc. Et prestito per dictum dominum Willelmum Lutte canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali, vt moris est.

Commissio facta domino Thome episcopo Tinensi ad reconciliandum et benedicendum ecclesiam parochialem de Yestepennard.

Ricardus Nykke vtriusque iuris doctor, etc. Reuerenciam tanto patri debitam cum honore. Ad reconciliandum et benedicendum ecclesiam parrochialem de Yestpennard dicte Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per sanguinis effusionem, vt informamur, nuper pollutam, necnon ad cetera omnia faciendum, exercendum et expediendum que in ea parte fuerint de iure quomodolibet requisita, vobis committimus plenam in Domino potestatem, rogantes attente quatinus huiusmodi negocio expedito nos de omni eo quod feceritis in hac parte, ac eciam de die reconciliacionis et benedictionis sic per vos faciendarum, velitis plene ac plane reddere cerciores. Datum sub sigillo nostro Wellie xxiiij die mensis Nouembris Anno Domini millesimo supradicto et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno primo.

Institucio vicar[ii] ecclesie parrochialis de Wedmore.

Item, xviij^{mo} die pretacti mensis Nouembris, Anno Domini predicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis in domo solite sue residencie Wellie, Magistrum Johannem Retford, theologie bacallarium, ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parrochialis de Wedmore, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Rogeri Jannys, vltimi vicarii eiusdem, vacantem, ad quam per venerabilem virum Magistrum Johannem Gunthorpe decanum ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, verum dicte vicarie patronum, prefato vicario in spiritualibus generali extitit extitit (*sic*) presentatus, admisit in persona Magistri Johannis Standerwyke notarii publici, et vicarium de continuo et personaliter inibi residendo primitus iuratum instituit canonice in et de eadem cum suis iuribus et

pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parrochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus episcopalibus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem canonice obedientie iuramento scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parrochialis de Orchardeley.

Item, xxvj^to^ die mensis Nouembris Anno Domini supradicto, Magister Willelmus Bokatt decretorum doctor, vices dicti vicarii in spiritualibus generalis gerens, in domo solite sue residencie Wellie, Magistrum Johannem Esterfyld, arcium magistrum, ad ecclesiam parrochialem de Orchardeley, Bathoniensi et Wellensi diocese per mortem domini Thome Clymmowe vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per probum virum Henricum Champneys Armigerum, verum eiusdem ecclesie patronum eidem vicario extitit presentatus, admisit in persona domini Ricardi capellanum et rectorem instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus etc. iuribus episcopalibus etc. Et recepto ab eodem canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali vt est moris.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parrochialis de Charlecom[be].

Item, xj^mo^ die mensis Decembris Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus Magister Willelmus Bokatt, in domo solite sue residencie Wellie dominum Thomam Yong' presbiterum ad ecclesiam parrochialem de Charlecombe, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Henrici Thomas vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per probum virum Morganum Thomas, verum eiusdem ecclesie patronum, eidem extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria et rectorem instituit canonice in et

de eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis etc. iuribus episcopalibus etc. Et recepto ab eodem canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Bathoniensi seu eius officiali vt est moris.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Kulmyngton'.

Vltimo die mensis Decembris Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, in ecclesia Cathedrali Wellensi, dominum Alexandrum Giles presbyterum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Kulmyngton, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Johannis Rose vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosas mulieres abbatissam et conuentum monasterii Shafton', veras eiusdem ecclesie patronas, prefato vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus etc. Et prestito per eundem admissum canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius indiccione (*sic*) Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali vt est moris.

Institucio Cantarie de Wyke.

xxvij° die Januarii Anno Domini supradicto, antenominatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis dominum Robertum Pryde, capellanum, ad perpetuam Cantariam Beate Margarete de Wyke, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem Magistri Ricardi Birde vltimi capellani eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per nobilem virum Amisium Paulet militem, verum dicte Cantarie patronum, prefato vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et capellanum instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vni-

uersis, iuribus etc. Et prestito per eundem admissum canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali vt est moris.

Collacio archidiaconatus Taunton' cum prebenda de Miluerton Prima, etc.

xviij die Februarii Anno Domini supradicto, dominus in Hospicio suo extra Barras Noui Templi London', Archidiaconatum Taunton' et prebendam de Miluerton Prima in eadem vacantem, contulit Magistro Willelmo Worsley legum doctori intuitu caritatis, ipsumque Archidiaconum et prebendarium prebende de Miluerton Prima canonice instituit et inuistiuit in et de eisdem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis. Scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Magistro Thome Harrys etc.

Institucio vicarii ecclesie parochialis de Longeashton'.

Vltimo die Februarii, Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis dominum Thomam Draper presbiterum ad perpetuam vicariam ecclesie parochialis de Longeashton Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Wilhelmi Corbette vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos viros priorem et conuentum ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis, veros eiusdem vicarie patronos, prefato vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et vicarium perpetuum de continue et personaliter residendo in eadem iuxta formam constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum iuratum, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus etc. Et prestito per eundem admissum canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius

induccione Archidiacono Bathoniensi seu eius officiali ut moris est.

Institucio vicarii ecclesie parochialis de Hasilbere.

Secundo die mensis Marcii, Anno Domini supradicto, prenominatus vicarius dominum Robertum Balche capellanum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie prebendalis de Hasilbere, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Ricardi Holte vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabilem virum Magistrum Walterum Knyztley canonicum ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis ac prebendarium prebende predicte verum dicte vicarie patronum, prefato vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et vicarium perpetuum de continue et personaliter residendo in eadem iuxta formam constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum iuratum, canonice instituit in eadem, (*sic*) suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis ; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus etc. Et prestito per eundem admissum canonice obedientie iuramento scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano seu eius officiali etc.

Collacio ecclesie parrochialis Sancte Marie Maioris de Ilchestre.

xxi die mensis Marcii Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis ecclesiam parochialem Sancte Marie Maioris de Ilchestre, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Jacobi Fitzharrys vltimi rectoris vacantem, et ad collacionem dicti reuerendi patris pleno iure spectantem, Magistro Thome Alphyn' in legibus bacallario contulit intuitu caritatis, ipsumque rectorem auctoritate dicti reuerendi patris sibi commissa canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et

pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus etc. Receptoque ab eodem admisso canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali ut est moris.

Collacio ecclesie parochialis de Chelworth.

xxiij° die mensis Marcii Anno Domini predicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis ecclesiam parochialem de Chelworth per liberam resignacionem domini Willelmi Albone vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, et ad collacionem dicti reuerendi patris pleno iure spectantem, domino Ricardo Halle presbitero contulit intuitu caritatis, ipsumque rectorem eiusdem ecclesie auctoritate dicti reuerendi patris sibi in hac parte commissa canonice instituit in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis, curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus etc. Receptoque ab eodem admisso canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Bathoniensi seu eius officiali ut moris est.

(*Sic*) EQUITUR ANNUS DOMINI MILLESIMUS CCCC^mus^ NONAGESIMUS TERCIUS.

Collacio prepositure ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis et prebende de Comba xij^a^ eidem annexa.

Vltimo die mensis Marcii Anno Domini predicto, dictus Reuerendus pater in hospicio suo extra Barram Noui Templi London,' prepositurum ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis ac pre-

bendam de Comba xij eidem annexam vacantes et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantes, Magistro Thome Barowe contulit intuitu caritatis, ipsumque prepositum et prebendarium canonice instituit et inuestiuit in et de eisdem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis, iuribus etc. Et scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Magistris Willelmo Boket et Johanni Stevyns canonicis ecclesie Cathedralis predicte etc.

Institucio vicarie de Barowe.

Primo die mensis Aprilis Anno Domini predicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis Magistrum Robertum Williamson notarium publicum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Barowe canonice instituit, ad quam per venerabilem virum Magistrum Willelmum Nykke Archidiaconum Wellensem extitit presentatum, et scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali vt est moris.

Collacio vicarie de Stowey iuxta Chewe.

Eisdem die et anno predicto, prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis auctoritate dicti reuerendi patris sibi in hac parte commissa, contulit domino Thome Smyth capellano vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Stowey iuxta Chewe vacantem. Scriptum fuit pro ipsius indiccione (*sic*) officiali peculiaris iurisdiccionis de Chewe, vt in forma.

Collacio camere none ex parte orientali clausi vicariorum Wellie.

Eodem die et Anno Domini predicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis apud Welles cameram nonam ex parte orientali clausi vicariorum Wellie vacantem auctoritate prefati

reuerendi patris sibi in ea parte commissa, Thome Ferre vicario chorali ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis contulit intuitu caritatis, iuxta statuta et ordinaciones recolende memorie domini Radulphi de Salopia quondam Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi in ea parte editos possidendam. Et super hoc literas obtinuit sub communi forma conceptas etc.

Institucio ecclesie parrochialis de Pytteney.

Item, ij^{do} die mensis Aprilis Anno Domini predicto, prenominatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis Thomam Baker clericum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Pytteney, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Willelmi Fulbroke vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per discretam mulierem Agnetem Morton viduam veram dicte ecclesie patronam, eidem vicario in spiritualibus generali extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentis vniuersis, iuribus et consuetudinibus etc. Et prestito per eundem Thomam Baker canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton seu eius officiali ut est moris etc.

Institucio ecclesie parochialis de Holford.

Item, eisdem die et anno memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis dominum Henricum Fychett capellanum ad ecclesiam parrochialem de Holford, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, vacantem, ad quam per venerabilem virum magistrum Henricum Bost prepositum collegii regalis Beate Marie de Eton' iuxta Windesoram, verum eiusdem ecclesie patronum, eidem vicario in spiritualibus generali extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis, curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in

Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus, etc. Et prestito per supradictum dominum Henricum Fychett canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali ut est moris.

Institucio ecclesie parochialis de Ore.

Item, eisdem die et anno supradictis, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis dominum Thomam Smyth capellanum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Ore, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini vltimi rectoris eiusdem, ad quam per discretum virum Henricum Kelly generosum verum dicte ecclesie patronum, eidem vicario extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem in persona Johannis Glover literati, procuratoris sui sufficientis in hac parte constituti, canonice instituit in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus, etc. Et prestito per eundem dominum Thomam Smyth canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali, ut est moris.

Institucio ecclesie parochialis de Kyttenore.

Item, eisdem die et anno predictis, prenominatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, dominum Johannem Midelham capellanum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Kyttenor, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Henrici Lymyn, vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per probum virum Nicholaum Bratton' armigerum verum dicte ecclesie patronum, eidem vicario extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem canonice instituit in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus, etc. Et prestito per supradictum dominum Johannem Midleham

canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali, et (*sic*) moris est.

Collacio prebende de Dynder in ecclesia Cathedrali Wellensi.

Item, duodecimo die mensis Aprilis Anno Domini predicto, dictus Reuerendus pater in manerio suo de Dogmersfeld, canonicatum in ecclesia sua Cathedrali Wellensi et prebendam de Dynder in eadem per liberam resignacionem domini Willelmi Pavy, vltimi possessoris eorundem vacantes et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantes, domino Johanni Menyman presbitero, contulit intuitu caritatis et ipsum canonicum et prebendarium instituit et investiuit canonice in eisdem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis. Et recepto ab eodem domino Johanne Menyman canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano vel subdecano ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, seu in eorum absencia presidenti capituli et capitulo eiusdem ut moris est.

Collacio prebende de Asshill.

Item, eisdem die et anno predictis, prefatus reuerendus pater in manerio suo de Dogmersfeld canonicatum in ecclesia sua Cathedrali Wellensi et prebendam de Asshill in eadem per mortem Magistri Johannis Wanesford vltimi possessoris eorundem vacantes, et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantes, Magistro Radulpho Lepton in legibus bacallario presbitero contulit intuitu caritatis, et ipsum canonicum et prebendarium instituit et investiuit canonice in eisdem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis. Et recepto ab eodem canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano, etc., ut supra.

Collacio prebende de Comba Octaua.

Item, eisdem die et anno supradictis dictus reuerendus pater in manerio suo predicto canonicatum in ecclesia sua Cathedrali Wellensi et prebendam de Comba viij^a per mortem magistri Johannis Taylour sacre theologie professoris vltimi possessoris eorundem vacantes, et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantes, magistro Johanni Retford in sacra theologia bacallario presbitero contulit intuitu caritatis, et ipsum canonicum et prebendarium instituit et inuestiuit canonice in eisdem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis. Et recepto ab eodem canonice obedientie iuramento scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano, etc., ut supra.

Collacio prebende de Shalforde.

Item, eisdem die et anno predictis prefatus Reuerendus pater in manerio suo predicto canonicatum in ecclesia Cathedrali Wellensi et prebendam de Shalford per liberam resignacionem magistri Willelmi Boket vltimi possessoris eorundem vacantes, et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantes, magistro Petro Carselegh in sacra theologia bacallario contulit intuitu caritatis, et ipsum canonicum et prebendarium instituit et inuestiuit canonice in eisdem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis. Et recepto ab eodem canonice obedientie iuramento scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano, etc., ut supra.

Collacio prebende de Whitlakyngton'.

Item, xvj° die eiusdem mensis Aprilis Anno Domini predicto, prefatus Reuerendus pater in manerio suo predicto canonicatum in ecclesia sua Cathedrali Wellensi et prebendam de Whitlakyngton' in eadem, per mortem magistri Johannis Lascy vltimi canonici et prebendarii eorundem vacantes, et ad suam collacionem pleno iure

spectantes, Magistro Willelmo Boket decretorum doctori contulit intuitu caritatis, et ipsum canonicum et prebendarium instituit et inuestiuit canonice in eisdem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis. Et recepto ab eodem canonice obedientie iuramento scriptum fuit pro induccione ut in forma.

Institucio ecclesie parochialis de Aysholte.

Item, vltimo die eiusdem mensis Aprilis et Anno Domini predicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis dominum Johannem Pawle capellanum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Aysholte, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Thome Harrys vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per probum virum Johannem Courteney Armigerum, verum eiusdem ecclesie patronum, prefato vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parrochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus, etc. Et prestito per eundem admissum canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali ut est moris.

Institucio ecclesie parochialis de Wolferyngton.

Item ij^{do} die mensis Maii Anno Domini predicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis dominum Ricardum Dale ad ecclesiam parochialem de Wolferyngton, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, vacantem, ad quam per probum virum Johannem Torny Armigerum, consanguineum et heredem Walteri Torney, nuper de Wolferyngton Armigeri, videlicet, filium et heredem Philippi Torney, filii et heredis Thome Torney, filii et heredis predicti Walteri, verum eiusdem ecclesie patronum, prefato vicario generali

extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus, etc. Et prestito per eundem admissum canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali ut est moris.

Litere dimissorie.

Item, eisdem die et anno predictis, prenominatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis dimisit Magistrum Willelmum Morys in legibus bacallarium Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad omnes sacros ordines sub forma consueta, etc.

Collacio cantarie ad altare Corporis Christi in ecclesia Cathedrali Wellensi.

Item, eisdem die et Anno Domini predicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis perpetuam cantariam ad altare Corporis Christi in ecclesia Cathedrali Wellensi per liberam resignacionem domini Johannis Pomefeld, vltimi capellani eiusdem vacantem, et ad collacionem reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi pleno iure spectantem, domino Thome Crosse, capellano, auctoritate dicti reuerendi patris sibi in hac parte commissa, contulit intuitu caritatis, ipsumque capellanum eiusdem cantarie cum onere personaliter residendi in eadem, iuxta formam ordinacionis et fundacionis eiusdem, canonice instituit in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus, etc. Et prestito per eundem dominum Thomam Crosse canonice obedientie iuramento, mandatum fuit Magistro Roberto Pemberton ad inducendum eundem, etc.

Commissio commissarii generalis.

Ricardus Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctor, canonicus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis ac Reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, dilecto nobis in Christo Magistro Johanni Lugwardyne, in decretis bacallario, salutem in omnium Saluatore. Cuncta nobis detecta commissa personaliter exercere non valentes, ac de tuis circumspectione fidelitate et industria plurimum in Domino confidentes, ad cognoscendum et procedendum in omnibus et singulis causis et negociis ex officio nostro mero, mixto seu promoto, contra subditos infra ciuitatem et diocesem Bathoniensem et Wellensem, necnon infra peculiarem iurisdiccionem de Cherde, Chewe et Wellyngton delinquentes, vel eorum aliquem vel aliquos motis vel mouendis; deque criminibus et excessibus quorumcunque subditorum huiusmodi, quociens opus fuerit inquirendum; criminaque et defectus subditorum huiusmodi corrigendum, puniendum et reformandum; penitentiasque condignas eis et eorum cuilibet pro commissis iniungendum; ac testamenta et vltimas defunctorum voluntates vbicunque infra Bathoniensem et Wellensem diocesem et peculiarem iurisdiccionem de Cherde, Chewe et Wellyngton' antedictam, quorum testamentorum et vltimarum voluntatum probacio, approbacio et insinuacio ad dictum reuerendum patrem de iure vel de consuetudine pertineant, probandum, approbandum et insinuandum; et pro valore huiusmodi testamentorum et vltimarum voluntatum pronunciandum; administracionesque bonorum subditorum huiusmodi testancium et ab intestato decedentium, illis quibus de iure fuerint committende in debita iuris forma committendum; compotumque calculum et raciocinium administracionis bonorum huiusmodi audiendum et recipiendum; ac soluentes quoscunque liberandum

et acquietandum; necnon fructus et prouentus, iuraque et emolumenta quorumcunque beneficiorum infra ambitum Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis et peculiaris iurisdiccionis predicte, et alia bona quecunque subditorum huiusmodi in casibus a iure et consuetudine premissis, vocatis iure vocandis, legitime sequestrandum; ac eas et ea sub arto et securo custodie sequestro mandandum et faciendum; ceteraque omnia et singula faciendum, exercendum et expediendum que in premissis et circa ea necessaria fuerint, seu quomodolibet oportuna; et que ad huiusmodi commissariatus officium qualitercunque noscuntur pertinere, tibi auctoritate dicti reuerendi patris nobis in hac parte commissa, committimus vices nostras, teque commissarium generalem ac peculiaris iurisdiccionis antedicte officialem, cum cohercionis cuiuslibet canonice potestate, auctoritate predicta preficimus et deputamus per presentes, ad beneplacitum nostrum duraturas. Datum sub sigillo officii nostri, quarto die mensis Maii Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo tercio, et translationis dicti Reuerendi patris anno primo.

Institucio ecclesie parochialis de Wroxale.

Item xiiij^o^ die Maii Anno Domini predicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis dominum Willelmum Drewe, capellanum, ad ecclesiam parochialem de Wroxale, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Thome Moyse vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per egregium virum Edmundum Gorges militem verum dicte ecclesie patronum, prout per inquisitionem debitam et canonicam de iure patronatus illius ecclesie in forma iuris captam plenius apparet, prefato vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius Ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus, etc. Et prestito per eundem admissum

canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Bathoniensi seu eius officiali ut est moris.

Copia capacitatis domini Willelmi Drewe.

Sixtus episcopus seruus seruorum Dei, dilecto filio Willelmo Drewe, fratri Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste in Wellia ordinis Sancti Augustini, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, salutem et apostolicam benedictionem. Religionis zelus vite ac morum honestas aliaque laudabilia probitatis et virtutum merita, super quibus apud nos fidedigno commendaris testimonio, nos inducunt ut te specialibus fauoribus et graciis prosequamur. Hinc est quod nos, uolentes te premissorum meritorum tuorum intuitu fauore prosequi gracioso, teque a quibuscunque excomuunicacionis, suspensionis et interdicti aliisque ecclesiasticis sententiis, censuris et penis, a iure vel ab homine quauis occasione vel causa latis, si quibus quomodolibet innodatus existis, ad effectum presencium duntaxat consequendum, harum serie absoluentes et absolutum fore censentes, tuis in hac parte supplicacionibus inclinati, tecum ut quodcumque beneficium ecclesiasticum, cum cura vel sine cura, per clericos seculares regi solitum, eciam si parochialis ecclesia vel eius perpetua vicaria, cantaria vel libera capella, hospitale vel annuale seruicium eisdem clericis in titulum perpetui beneficii ecclesiastici assignari solitum, et de iure patronatus laicorum fuerit, ac cuiuscunque taxe seu annui valoris illius fructus redditus et prouentus existant, si tibi alias canonice conferatur, presenteris vel assumaris ad illud, et in eo instituaris, recipere et quoad uixeris retinere, illudque simpliciter vel ex causa permutacionis, quociens tibi placuerit dimittere, et loco dimissi aliud simile vel dissimile beneficium ecclesiasticum per eosdem clericos teneri solitum similiter recipere, et ut prefertur retinere, libere et licite valeas, quibusuis apostolicis ac bone memorie Octonis et

Octoboni olim in regno Anglie sedis apostolice legatorum, ac in prouincialibus et synodalibus consiliis editis generalibus vel specialibus constitucionibus et ordinacionibus, necnon hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste in Wellia ordinis Sancti Augustini, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, cuius frater, et ut asseris ordinem ipsum expresse professus existis, ac dicti ordinis iuramento, confirmacione apostolica vel quauis firmitate alia roboratis statutis et consuetudinibus ceterisque contrariis nequaquam obstantibus, auctoritate apostolica tenore presencium de specialis dono gracie dispensamus. Nulli ergo omnino hominum liceat hanc paginam nostre absolucionis et dispensacionis infringere, vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Si quis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit, indignacionem omnipotentis Dei ac Beatorum Petri et Pauli Apostolorum Eius, se nouerit incursurum. Datum Rome apud Sanctum Petrum, anno Incarnacionis Dominice millesimo quadringentesimo septuagesimo quinto, quinto Idus Januarii, pontificatus nostri anno quinto.

Institucio vicarie de Northover in Ilchestre.

Item, xv° die Maii anno predicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, dominum Johannem Beele capellanum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Northover, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Johannis Donyll, vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per religiosos viros magistrum et confratres domus siue Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste de Bruggewater, veros dicte vicarie patronos, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, in persona sua propria admisit et vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continue inibi residendo iuxta exigenciam constitutionum legatinarum in ex parte editarum iuratum, instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie parochialis sibi in

Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem domino Johanne Beele canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali, ut moris est.

Institucio vicarie de Shapewyke.

Item, xx° die Maii, Anno Domini predicto, memoratus vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis dominum Thomam Knyght capellanum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Shapewyke, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Johannis Comsyn', vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos viros abbatem et conuentum Monasterii Beate Marie Glaston', veros eiusdem vicarie patronos, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, in persona sua propria admisit et vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continue inibi residendo, iuxta formam constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum, iuratum instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem domino Thoma Knyght canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione custodi spiritualitatis iurisdiccionis Glaston', ut moris est.

Ecclesie parochialis de Lauerton permutacio. Vicaria de Southstoke.

Item, eisdem die et anno predictis, prefatus vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis apud Welles, in quodam permutacionis negocio facto inter dominum Thomam Warrand', rectorem ecclesie parochialis de Laverton', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, et dominum Thomam Eckyls, vicarium perpetuum ecclesie parochialis de Sowthstoke, eiusdem diocesis, facte, ligitime procedens,

audiuit examinauit et plenarie discussit causas et negocium permutacionis huiusmodi, ipsisque causis veris et legitimis inuentis approbauit easdem, dictamque permutacionem auctorizauit, necnon receptis resignacionibus de dictis ecclesiis factis, ipsisque obtentu permutacionis huiusmodi fiende admissis, idem vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis prefato domino Thome Ekkyls dictam ecclesiam parochialem de Laverton, ad collacionem reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi Dei gratia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi spectantem, auctoritate sibi per eundem reuerendum patrem in ea parte commissa, contulit intuitu caritatis, et ipsum rectorem instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis, curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie parochialis de Lauerton predicte sibi in Domino plenius committendo. Quo facto idem vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis prefatum dominum Thomam Warrand ad perpetuam vicariam ecclesie parochialis de Sowthstoke dicte diocesis, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos viros priorem et capitulum ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis, veros dicte vicarie patronos, ex memorate permutacionis causa eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et eiusdem permutacionis obtentu vicarium instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis, curam animarum parochianorum dicte ecclesie de Sowthstoke sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Receptisque a prefatis dominis Thoma et Thoma canonice obedientie iuramentis, scriptum fuit pro induccione dicti domini Thome Ekkyls Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali, etc., et pro indiccione (*sic*) domini Thome Warrand Archidiacono Bathoniensi seu eius officiali, ut est moris.

Institucio vicarie de Barowe.

Item, xxij° die Maii, Anno Domini predicto, memoratus vicarius

in Spiritualibus generalis, dominum Thomam Marsshall, capellanum, ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Barowe, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem Magistri Roberti Williamson, vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabilem virum Magistrum Willelmum Nykke, Archidiaconum Wellie, verum dicte vicarie patronum, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et vicarium perpetuum de continue et personaliter residendo in eadem, iuxta formam constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum, iuratum, instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum prefate ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et prestito per dictum dominum Thomam canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellie seu eius officiali ut est moris.

HIC MUTATUR ANNUS TRANSLACIONIS DOMINI PRIMUS IN ANNUM SECUNDUM.

Institucio ecclesie parochialis de Spaxton.

Item, xxiij die Maii, Anno Domini predicto, memoratus vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis Willelmum Lynton' clericum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Spaxton', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem Magistri Leonardi Say, vltimi rectoris vacantem, ad quam per prouidos viros Henricum Ediall clericum, et Ricardum Eliot generosum, veros dicte ecclesie patronos ratione aduocacione illius ecclesie ipsis hac vice tantum facte, ut plenius apparet, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem canonice instituit in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum prefate ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus, etc. Et prestito per dictum Willelmum Lynton' canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit

pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali ut est moris.

Collacio camere xviij^e ex parte occidentali clausi vicariorum Wellensis.

Item, xxx° die Maii, Anno Domini predicto, memoratus vicarius apud Welles, cameram xviij^am ex parte occidentali clausi vicariorum Wellensis vacantem, auctoritate prefati reuerendi patris sibi spectantem in ea parte commissa, domino Willelmo Baron' vicario chorali ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, contulit intuitu caritatis, iuxta statuta et ordinaciones recolende memorie domini Radulphi de Salopia, quondam Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, in ea parte editas possidendam. Et super hoc literas obtinuit sub communi forma conceptas.

Dimissio ad ordines.

Item, quinto die Junii, Anno Domini supradicto, idem vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis dimisit Johannem Hawkar accolitum ad omnes sacros ordines ut in forma.

Institucio vicarie de Lityll Sampford.

Item, vij^mo Junii Anno Domini predicto, idem vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis, dominum Johannem Orchard capellanum, ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Litill Sampford, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Willelmi Hirdeson' vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosas mulieres abbatissam et conuentum domus Beate Marie et Sancti Johannis Euuangeliste de Legh Canonicarum, veras eiusdem vicarie patronas, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et vicarium perpetuum de continuo et personaliter residendo in eadem iuxta formam constitucionum legatin-

arum in ea parte editarum, in persona Johannis Browne literati procuratoris sui in ea parte sufficienter constituti iuratum, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum eiusdem ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Ex prestito per eundem procuratorem canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali, ut est moris.

Institucio ecclesie parochialis de Whitstaunton.

Item, x° die eiusdem mensis, et Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis Magistrum Humfridum Wawtard, arcium magistrum, ad ecclesiam parochialem de Whitstaunton, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Thome Mallacke vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per discretam mulierem Johannam Hugyn', filiam et heredem Johannis Hugyn' Armigeri, veram dicte ecclesie hac vice patronam, prout per inquisicionem debitam et canonicam de iure patronatus illius ecclesie in forma iuris captam, plenius apparet, prefato vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem in persona Magistri Thome Goldwegge, procuratoris sui in hac parte sufficienter constituti, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum prefate ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus, etc. Et prestito per dictum procuratorem canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali, ut est moris.

Commissio ad consecrandum et benedicendum ecclesiam parochialem de Long Sutton.

Ricardus Nykke, etc., venerabili in Christo patri Thome Dei

gratia Tinensi episcopo salutem in Auctore salutis. Ad dedicandum, consecrandum et benedicendum ecclesiam parochialem de Long Sutton, cum cimiterio eiusdem nuper ex integro et nouo edificatam et constructam, necnon ad cetera omnia faciendum exercendum et expediendum, que in ea parte fuerint de iure quomodolibet requisita, vobis auctoritate michi tradita, committimus vices dicti reuerendi patris per presentes, ac plenam in Domino potestatem, rogantes attente quatenus huiusmodi negocio expedito, nos de omni eo quod feceritis in hac parte, ac eciam de die dedicacionis et consecracionis sic per vos faciendarum, velitis plene ac plane reddere cerciores. In cuius rei testimonium, etc. Datum viij° die mensis Junii, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo, translacionis dicti reuerendi patris, anno ij^do^.

Institucio vicarie de Kuestoke.

Item, xxij° die eiusdem mensis Junii, Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis admisit venerabilem virum Ricardum Spryng, priorem de Worspryng', ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Kuestoke, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Johannis Chirbury vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per probum virum Willelmum Olmixton' generosum, verum dicte vicarie hac vice, racione cuiusdam carte aduocacionis sibi facte patronum, dicto vicario extitit presentatus, et ipsum vicarium perpetuum de continue et personaliter residendo in eadem, iuxta formam constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum iuratum, instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem Ricardo priore canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali, ut moris est.

Copia capacitatis domini Ricardi Spryng Prioris de Worspryng.

Innocencius episcopus seruus seruorum Dei, dilecto filio Ricardo Sprynge Priori monasterii per priorem solitum gubernari de Worsprynge, ordinis Sancti Augustini, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, salutem et apostolicam benedictionem. Religionis zelus, vite ac morum honestas, aliaque laudabilia probitatis et virtutum merita, super quibus apud nos fidedigno commendaris testimonio, nos inducunt ut te specialibus fauoribus et graciis prosequamur. Hinc est quod nos, uolentes te, qui ut asseris prioratum monasterii per priorem soliti gubernari de Worsprynge, ordinis Sancti Augustini Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, obtines, premissorum meritorum tuorum intuitu fauore prosequi gracioso; teque a quibusuis excommunicacionis, suspensionis et interdicti, aliisque ecclesiasticis sentenciis, censuris et penis a iure vel ab homine quauis occasione vel causa latis, si quibus quomodolibet innodatus existis, ad effectum presencium dumtaxat consequendum, harum serie absoluentes et absolutum fore censentes; ac ipsius prioratus fructuum, redditum et proventuum verum annuum valorem et qualitates presentibus pro expressis habentes, tuis in hac parte supplicacionibus inclinati, tecum ut vna cum predicto vel quocunque alio prioratu, vel cui te forsan preesse contigerit monasterio predicti ordinis, per te pro tempore obtento, vel sine illo quodcumque beneficium ecclesiasticum cum cura vel sine cura per clericos seculares teneri solitum, eciam si parochialis ecclesia vel eius perpetua vicaria, cantaria, libera capella, hospitale, vel annuale seruicium eisdem clericis in titulum perpetui beneficii ecclesiastici assignari solitum, et de iure patronatus laicorum fuerit, ac cuiuscunque taxe seu annui valoris illius fructus redditus et proventus existant, si tibi alias canonice conferatur aut presenteris vel alias assumaris ad illud siue instituaris in eo, recipere et in commendam quoad uixeris retinere,

illudque simpliciter vel ex causa permutacionis quociens tibi placuerit, dimittere et loco dimissi aliud simile vel dissimile beneficium ecclesiasticum cum cura vel sine cura per eosdem clericos teneri solitum similiter recipere, et in eandem commendam quoad uixeris ut prefertur retinere, necnon debitis et consuetis dicti beneficii supportatis oneribus de residuis illius fructibus, redditibus et prouentibus, sicuti illud pro tempore obtinentes de illis disponere et ordinare potuerunt seu eciam debuerunt, alienacione tamen quorumcunque bonorum immobilium et preciosorum mobilium dicti beneficii tibi penitus interdicta, disponere et ordinare libere et licite valeas, quibusuis apostolicis necnon bone memorie Octonis et Octoboni olim in regno Anglie apostolice sedis legatorum ac in prouincialibus et sinodalibus conciliis editis generalibus vel specialibus constitucionibus et ordinacionibus, ac dicti prioratus de Worsprynge, cuius canonicus et ut eciam asseris ordinem ipsum expresse professus existis, et ordinis eiusdem iuramento confirmacione apostolica vel quauis firmitate alia roboratis statutis et consuetudinibus ceterisque contrariis nequaquam obstantibus, auctoritate apostolica tenore presencium de specialis dono gracie dispensamus, prouiso quod beneficium huiusmodi debitis propteria non fraudetur obsequiis et animarum cura in eo, si qua illi imminent, nullatenus negligatur, sed illius congrue supportentur onera antedicta. Nulli ergo omnino hominum liceat hanc paginam nostre absolucionis et dispensacionis infringere vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Si quis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit, indignacionem omnipotentis Dei ac Beatorum Petri et Pauli apostolorum Eius, se nouerit incursurum. Datum Rome apud Sanctum Marcum, Anno Incarnacionis Dominice millesimo cccc^{mo} nonagesimo primo, tercio decimo kalendas Maii, pontificatus nostri anno septimo. Concordat cum originali. Ro. W.

Concessio officii Registrarii Cancellarie vel Audiencie facta Magistro Roberto Williamson.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus hoc presens scriptum visuris vel audituris, Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, salutem gratiam et benedictionem. Noueritis quod nos Ricardus episcopus antedictus dedimus, concessimus et confirmauimus, et hoc presenti scripto nostro damus, concedimus et confirmamus dilecto nobis in Christo Magistro Roberto Williamson, presbitero, auctoritate apostolica notario, officium Registrarie nostrarum Cancellarie et Audiencie, habendum tenendum et occupandum dictum officium sibi vel per sufficientem deputatum suum ad terminum vite sue cum suis pertinentiis vniuersis. Ita quod bene licebit prefato Roberto durante vita sua naturali quascumque literas ac quecumque acta et processus causarum et negociorum in Cancellaria siue Audiencia nostra habita et facta, scribere et fideliter registrare, per se seu deputatum suum scribi et fideliter registrari facere, ac omnia et singula feoda, proficua et emolumenta quecunque dicto officio et Registrario eiusdem de consuetudine antiqua spectancia et pertinencia, libere percipere et habere, prout Registrarii predictum officium occupantes percipere et habere consueuerunt, dictumque Robertum nostrum ac Cancellarie et Audiencie nostre huiusmodi Registrarium, necnon Registrorum nostrorum et aliorum munimentorum quorumcunque ad ipsam Cancellariam nostram et Audienciam ac vsum earundem pertinencium et pertinere debencium custodem, preficimus et deputamus per presentes. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum fecimus hiis apponi. Datum in manerio nostro de Dogmersfeld, Wintoniensis diocesis, xiij° die mensis Aprilis, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo tercio, et nostre translationis anno primo.

Confirmatio decani et capituli ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis.

Et nos Johannes Gunthorp', decanus Ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, et eiusdem loci capitulum, prefatas literas et contenta in eisdem omnia et singula rata habentes et grata, ipsas et ipsa quantum in nobis est de nostris communi consensu pariter et assensu pro nobis et successoribus nostris secundum omnem vim formam et effectum earundem, ratificamus, approbamus et per presentes confirmamus. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum commune presentibus apposuimus. Datum in domo nostra capitulari Wellie, decimo septimo die mensis Junii, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo tercio, et anno regni regis Henrici septimi post conquestum octauo.

Confirmacio prioris et capituli Bathoniensis.

Et nos Johannes Cantlowe, permissione diuina prior Ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis et eiusdem loci conventus siue capitulum, presentes literas et contenta in eisdem omnia et singula rata habentes et grata, ipsas et ipsa quantum in nobis est de nostris communi consensu pariter et assensu, pro nobis et successoribus nostris secundum omnem vim, formam et effectum earundem, ratificamus, approbamus et per presentes confirmamus. In cuius rei testimonium, sigillum nostrum commune presentibus apponi fecimus. Datum in domo nostra capitulari, vicesimo die mensis Junii, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo tercio.

Concessio officii Balliuatus Libertatum etc.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presentes litere peruenerint, Ricardus Dei gratia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, salutem in Domino. Noueritis nos dedisse et concessisse dilecto nobis in Christo Willelmo Fulford, seruienti nostro, officium Balliuatus

libertatum nostrarum tam infra comitatum Somersetie quam extra, ad exercendum, faciendum et exequendum omnia et singula que ad officium predictum pertinent, tam in returna breuium domini regis ac execucionibus eorundem, quam ad seisandum omnia escaeta, deodanda, bona et catalla vtlagatorum, felonum, fugitivorum, attinctorum, et alia quecunque ad nos vel successores nostros pertinencia racione libertatis nostre predicte. Acciam ad agendum, faciendum, occupandum et exercendum totum et quicquid ad officium clerici de mercato pertinet, infra libertatem predictam; habendum et occupandum predictum officium cum ceteris prenominatis ad terminum vite sue vel per sufficientem deputatum vel deputatos suos. Dedimus eciam et concessimus prefato Willelmo annualem pensionem decem librarum legalis monete Anglie annuatim percipiendarum de exitibus et prouentibus dicti officii per manus suas proprias durante termino predicto, reddendo semper nobis et successoribus nostris annuatim compotum racionabilem de exitibus et proficuis inde prouenientibus et debitis. Sub hac tamen condicione quod predictus Willelmus Fulford exonerabit nos et successores nostros erga dominum Regem et heredes suos in scaccario suo de omnibus hiis que ad officium predictum pertinent, durante termino supradicto. Concessimus eciam et per presentes damus eidem Willelmo Fulford, officium balliuatus ciuitatis sive burgi nostri Wellie, in comitatu predicto, ad exercendum, faciendum et exequendum omnia et singula dicto officio pertinencia ad terminum vite sue, per se vel per sufficientem deputatum aut deputatos suos. Dedimus eciam et concessimus prefato Willelmo annualem pensionem quattuor librarum sex solidorum et octo denariorum, legalis monete Anglie, annuatim percipiendorum de exitibus et prouentibus dicti officii per manus suas proprias, durante termino predicto, reddendo annuatim nobis et successoribus nostris racionabilem compotum de exitibus et proficuis inde

prouenientibus et debitis, prout racio compoti exigit et requirit; mandantes et firmiter iniungentes hominibus et subditis nostris quibuscunque quatenus prefato Willelmo Fulford tanquam balliuo libertatum nostrarum predictarum, et ciuitatis siue burgi predicti, in singulis que ad execucionem dictorum officiorum pertinent, pareant humiliter, sicut conuenit, et intendant. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum hiis apponi fecimus. Datum apud manerium nostrum de Dogmersfeld, quinto decimo die mensis Aprilis, anno regni Regis Henrici septimi post conquestum Anglie octauo, et translacionis nostre primo.

Confirmaciones, ut supra, etc.

Concessio vnius clausi prati Ricardo Nykke clerico.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum indentatum peruenerit, Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noueritis nos tradidisse, dimisisse, concessisse et hoc presenti scripto nostro indentato confirmasse Ricardo Nykke clerico, vnum clausum prati vocatum Waterlese, iacens in parco nostro infra manerium nostrum de Welles in comitatu Somers etie, continens in se xvj acras terre; quod quidem clausum Ricardus Burnell nuper tenuit: habendum et tenendum predictum clausum prati cum suis pertinentiis vniversis prefato Ricardo Nykke clerico, ad terminum vite sue, reddendo inde annuatim nobis et successoribus nostris viginti sex solidos et octo denarios monete Anglie ad terminos vsuales equis porcionibus persoluendos. Et si contingat predictum redditum viginti sex solidorum et octo denariorum a retro fore in parte vel in toto post aliquem terminum solucionis quo solui debeat non solutum per vnum mensem integrum, si debito modo petatur, quod tunc bene licebit nobis et successoribus nostris in dictum

clausum prati cum suis pertinenciis vniuersis intrare et distringere, ac districciones ibidem inuentas siue captas licite capere, asportare, abducere, effugare et imparcare, ac penes nos retinere, quousque de predicto redditu simul cum omnibus inde arreragiis, misis, dampnis et expensis in hac parte habitis, nobis plenarie fuerit satisfactum et persolutum. Et nos vero predictus Ricardus episcopus et successores nostri, totum predictum clausum prati cum singulis suis pertinenciis ut prefertur, prefato Ricardo Nykke clerico, ad terminum vite sue, ut premittitur, contra omnes gentes warantizabimus, acquietabimus et in forma predicta defendemus per presentes. In cuius rei testimonium vni parti huius scripti indentati penes predictum Ricardum Nykke clericum remanenti, nos prefatus episcopus sigillum nostrum fecimus hiis apponi. Alteri vero parti eiusdem scripti indentati penes nos remanenti prefatus Ricardus Nykke clericus, sigillum suum apposuit. Hiis testibus, Amisio Powlet, milite, Galfrido Panell, Nicholas Marton', Johanne Diker, generosis, Johanne Cupper et multis aliis. Datum in manerio nostro de Dogmersfeld, tercio decimo die mensis Aprilis, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo tercio, et anno regni Regis Henrici septimi post conquestum Anglie, octauo, et translacionis nostre primo.

Confirmaciones, ut supra, etc.

Manumissio Ricardi Hawkyns.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum peruenerit, Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noueritis nos manumisisse Ricardum Hawkyns, alias Turret, natiuum nostrum ad manerium nostrum de Banwell spectantem, ac ipsum ab omni iugo seruitutis liberasse et liberum fecisse, cum omnibus bonis, catallis suis, et tota sequela sua procreata seu procreanda. Ita quod nec nos nec

successores nostri aliquid iuris vel clamei ad prefatum Ricardum Hawkyns, alias Turret, seu sequelam suam procreatam vel procreandam, de cetero habere vel exigere poterimus, sed ab omni iure et titulo natiuitatis ipsius Ricardi et sequele sue procreate seu procreande sumus exclusi imperpetuum per presentes. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum fecimus hiis apponi. Datum in manerio nostro de Dogmersfeld Wintoniensis diocesis, xiij° die mensis Aprilis, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^, nonagesimo tercio, et nostre translacionis anno primo.

Confirmaciones, ut supra, etc.

Pensio annua de fructibus vicarie de Kuestoke, assignata resignanti.

Vniuersis Sancte Matris ecclesie filiis ad quos presentes litere peruenerint, Ricardus Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctor, canonicus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ac reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, salutem in Domino sempiternam ac fidem indubiam presentibus adhibere. Ad vniuersitatis vestre noticias deducimus ac deduci volumus per presentes, quia nuper discretus vir dominus Johannes Chirbury, vicarius perpetuus ecclesie parochialis de Kuestoke, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, cui per tempora plurima ut vicarius eiusdem prefuit, ipsius curam per se gerendo et exercendo, vicariam suam huiusmodi cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis ex certis causis veris et legitimis eum ad hoc mouentibus, in manus nostras pure, sponte et absolute resignauit, dicta resignacione per nos legitime admissa, venerabilis vir Ricardus Sprynge, prior de Worsprynge, ad presentacionem probi viri Willelmi Olmixton generosi, veri illius vicarie hac vice racione cuiusdam carte aduo-

cacionis sibi facte patroni, ad ipsam per nos admissus extitit et canonice institutus, prout moris est, in eadem. Demum nos ad humilem supplicacionem dicti domini Johannis Chirbury, senio confracti ac viribus corporis debilitati, huiusmodi sui senium, statum, gradum et corporis debilitatem ad nostras consideraciones debite reducentes, de assensu et consensu prefati Ricardi prioris, sic in vicarium eiusdem ecclesie admissi, ac in ipsa canonice instituti, se et suam ecclesiam scienter voluntarie et deliberate nostris ordinacioni et disposicioni in hac parte submittentis, prefato domino Johanni Chirbury pensionem annuam iiij^or marcarum bone et legalis monete Anglie ex premissis causis et aliis iuste nos mouentibus, de decimis fructibus et prouentibus predicte vicarie per dictum Ricardum priorem eiusdem ecclesie vicarium modernum, suosque successores ad iiij^or anni terminos, quousque idem dominus Johannes Chirbury ad aliud beneficium ecclesiasticum cum cura fuerit promotus; videlicet, ad festa Sancti Michaelis Archangeli, Natalis Domini, Annunciacionis Beate Marie Virginis, et Sancti Johannes Baptiste, per equales porciones annis singulis sibi seu deputato suo legitimo fideliter persoluendarum, incipiente prima solucione in festo Sancti Michaelis Archangeli proximo futuro post datam presencium, decreuimus ordinauimus et assignauimus auctoritate et vigore officii nostri memorati per presentes. Insuper ordinamus et decernimus quod quilibet prefati domini Ricardi Sprynge, prioris vicarii moderni, in dicta vicaria successor, vicarius admittendus et instituendus, statim post ipsius admissionem et institucionem in eadem coram ipso sic admittente et instituente, de soluendo fideliter huiusmodi pensionem, modo et forma premissis, tactis per eundem sic admissum et institutum corporaliter sacrosanctis Dei euuangeliis, iuramentum prestet atque faciet corporale. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum officii nostri presentibus apposuimus. Datum Wellie, xxij^o die mensis Junii,

Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo nonagesimo tercio et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno secundo.

Institucio vicarie de Ingliscombe.

Item, xxv^to die Junii, Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius admisit dominum Willelmum Regelene capellanum, ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Ingliscombe, per mortem domini Willelmi Clifton, vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem. Ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos viros priorem et capitulum ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis veros eiusdem ecclesie patronos, etc. Scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Bathoniensi seu eius officiali ut est moris, etc.

Institucio vicarii de Weston.

Item, eisdem die et anno supramemoratus vicarius admisit dominum Willelmum Beddeforde, capellanum, ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Weston, per liberam resignacionem domini Johannis Chaunceler vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem. Ad presentationem prioris et capituli, etc., ut supra, scriptum fuit ut supra.

Institucio vicarii de Weston.

Item, ix° die Julii, Anno Domini supradicto, supramemoratus vicarius admisit dominum Johannem Babour capellanum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Weston', per mortem domini Willelmi Beddford, vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem. Ad quam per suprascriptos venerabiles et religiosos viros priorem et capitulum ecclesie Bathoniensis veros eiusdem vicarie patronos, etc. Scriptum fuit ut supra, etc.

Institucio ecclesie parochialis de Budcombe.

Item, xij° die Julii, Anno Domini supradicto, idem vicarius in

Spiritualibus generalis apud Welles, dominum Willelmum Geffreis, capellanum, ad ecclesiam parochialem de Budcombe, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Dionisii Galhane vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per religiosos viros magistrum et conuentum Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste, Bristollie, veros dicte ecclesie patronos, eidem vicarie extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, curam animarum parochianorum dicte ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem ut supra, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Bathoniensis seu eius officiali, ut moris est.

Institucio capellani cantarie perpetue in ecclesia parochiali de Porlok'.

Item, xxiij die Julii, Anno Domini supradicto, sepedictus vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis dominum Thomam Dene capellanum, ad perpetuam cantariam Johannis nuper domini Haryngton' et Elizabeth vxoris eius in ecclesia parochiali Sancti Dubricii de Porlok', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, de duobus capellanis perpetuis fundatam, iam de vno capellano per mortem Edmundi Helme, vnius capellanorum eiusdem cantarie vacantem; ad quam per probum virum Thomam Tremayll armigerum, prefato vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria et capellanum perpetuum de obseruando statuta et ordinaciones ipsius cantarie iuxta fundacionem et ordinacionem eiusdem iuratum instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam, regimen et administracionem illius cantarie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et prestito per dictum dominum Thomam Dene canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali, ut est moris etc.

Mutacio dedicationis ecclesie parochialis de Kuestoke.

Ricardus Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctor, canonicus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ac Reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarius in spiritualibus, dilectis nobis in Christo vicario vicarie ecclesie parochialis de Kuestoke, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis vniuersisque parochianis vtriusque sexus eiusdem ecclesie presentibus et futuris, salutem in omnium Saluatore ac subscriptorum memoriam sempiternam. Vestra nuper exhibita peticio continebat quod dicta vestra parochialis ecclesia ab antiquo ix° die mensis Augusti, autumpnali tempore contingenti, extitit dedicata, ipsiusque dedicationis festum ibidem predicto ix° die pridem celebrari consueuit annuatim; verum, quia festum dedicacionis huiusmodi ob temporis autumpnalis qualitatem, assiduasque dictorum parochianorum occupaciones eo tempore pro messibus colligendis, necnon alias iustas racionabiles et probabiles causas, ex parte vestra nobis ministratas, prefato ix° die mensis predicti hactenus minime poterat neque veluti subiunxistis in futurum potest absque dictorum parochianorum graui dispendio sub debita et congrua veneracione solempnitate et deuocione prout decuit obseruari, pro parte vestra nobis fuit humiliter supplicatum, quatenus festum dedicacionis ecclesie parochialis predicte ad maiorem populi deuocionem excitandum et diuini cultus augmentum, necnon dictorum parochianorum vtilitatem et quietem, ad diem Dominicam proximam post festum Sancte Anne transferre et commutare dignaremur; nos vero peticioni vestre huiusmodi, pie deuocioni et magne racioni innitenti annuentes, prefatam dedicacionis festiuitatem a dicto ix° die mensis Augusti ad suprascriptam diem Dominicam, auctoritate nobis in hac parte com-

missa, transferrimus, atque tenore presencium commutamus; vobisque earundem tenorem firmiter iniungentes precipimus et mandamus, quatinus huiusmodi dedicacionis festiuitatem dicta die Dominica debite ut est moris amodo singulis annis perpetuis futuris temporibus obseruetis. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum fecimus hiis apponi. Datum Wellie vltimo die mensis Julii, Anno Domini m° cccc^mo lxxxxiij°, et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno ij^do.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Westmonkton'.

Item, xiij° die Augusti Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis Magistrum Thomam Warde, clericum, ad ecclesiam parochialem de Westmonkton', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem Magistri Thome Overay, vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per illustrissimum ac metuendissimum in Christo principem et dominum nostrum Henricum, Dei Gracia Regem Anglie et Francie, et Dominum Hibernie, verum dicte ecclesie hac vice racione temporalium Abbatie Glaston' iam in manibus suis existentium patronum, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem in persona Magistri Johannis Laton' in legibus bacallarii procuratoris sui sufficienter in hac parte constituti, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et prestito per dictum procuratorem, nomine et in animam domini sui antedicti canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali ut est moris, etc.

Institucio capelle libere de Estham.

Item, xviij° die eiusdem mensis, Anno Domini supradicto prenominatus vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis, Edwardum Howell clericum ad liberam capellam de Estham, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem Johannis Stokey vltimi possessoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per circumspectum virum Johannem Hayys armigerum verum eiusdem capelle patronum, dicto vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit ac possessorem eiusdem capelle cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis canonice instituit in eadem ; curam et regimen dicte capelle sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et prestito per eundem Edwardum Howell canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton, seu eius officiali ut moris est, etc.

Collacio prebende de Compton' Dunden'.

Item, x° die eiusdem mensis Anno Domini supradicto, idem Reuerendus pater apud Lychfeld contulit Thome Colson', clerico, canonicatum in ecclesia sua Cathedrali Wellensi, et prebendam de Compton' Dunden' in eadem, per mortem Magistri Thome Overay vltimi possessoris eorundem vacantes, et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantes, ipsumque canonicum eiusdem ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis ac prebendarium prebende predicte canonice instituit in et de eisdem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano vel subdecano ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, et in eorum absencia presidenti capituli et capitulo eiusdem ecclesie, ut est moris.

Institucio capellani cantarie perpetue Ricardi Chocke Militis.

Item, xxj° die eiusdem mensis, Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius in Spiritualibus generalis dominum Jacobum Bancrofte capellanum ad cantariam perpetuam vocatam "Cantaria Ricardi Chocke Militis" ad altare in capella Beate Marie Virginis infra ecclesiam parochialem de Longasshton', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Willelmi Drewe vltimi capellani eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per circumspectum virum Johannem Chocke, armigerum, verum dicte cantarie patronum, dicto vicario generali extitit presentatus, in persona sua propria admisit ac capellanum perpetuum de obseruando statuta et ordinaciones eiusdem cantarie iuxta fundacionem ipsius primitus iuratum, instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem domino Jacobo canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Bathoniensi seu eius officiali, ut est moris, etc.

Institucio vicarii ecclesie parochialis de Lydearde Episcopi.

Item, iij. die Septembris Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius generalis apud Welles, dominum Johannem Algar, capellanum, ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Lidearde Episcopi, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Thome Webber, vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles viros decanum et capitulum ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis veros eiusdem vicarie patronos, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria, et vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continuo inibi residendo in eadem iuxta formam constitucionum Legatinarum in ea parte

editarum, necnon de soluendo domino Johanni Aleyn' dictam vicariam resignanti annuam pensionem viginti solidorum bone et legalis monete Anglie ad ij^os^ anni terminos equis porcionibus, videlicet ad festa Pasche et Sancti Michaelis Archangeli, quousque idem dominus Johannes Aleyn' ad aliud beneficium ecclesiasticum cum cura fuerit promotus, primitus iuratum, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vniuersis, curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus etc. Et recepto ab eodem Domino Johanne Algar canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano et capitulo dicte ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis seu eorum officiali.

Commissio officii Senescalcie.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presentes litere peruenerint, Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus salutem in Domino. Noueritis nos dedisse et concessisse dilecto nobis in Christo Amisio Poulet, militi, officium capitalis senescalcie omnium hundredorum, dominiorum, terrarum et tenementorum nostrorum, tam infra comitatum Somersetie quam extra, habendum et occupandum dictum officium ad terminum vite sue, per se vel deputatum suum; pro quo quidem officio bene et fideliter exercendo dedimus et concessimus prefato Amisio vnum annuum redditum siue pensionem viginti marcarum annuatim exeuntium de manerio nostro de Kyngesbury in comitatu Somersetie predicto, habendum et percipiendum dictum annuum redditum siue pensionem viginti marcarum prefato Amisio durante termino predicto ad duos anni terminos, videlicet, ad festa Pasche et Sancti Michaelis per equales porciones. Et si contingat dictum annuum redditum siue pensionem viginti marcarum a retro fore in parte vel in toto per quindecim dies post aliquem terminum terminorum predictorum, quo

ut permittitur solui debeat, quod tunc bene licebit prefato Amisio et assignatis suis in manerium predictum et quamlibet inde parcellam intrare et distringere, et districciones sic captas abducere et asportare, et penes se retinere, quousque sibi de redditu predicto, vna cum arreragiis suis, plenarie fuerit satisfactum et persolutum. Mandamus igitur omnibus et singulis balliuis, prepositis, ministris, hominibus et tenentibus nostris quibuscunque, quod eidem Amisio in dicto officio sint intendentes et auxiliantes in omnibus prout decet. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum fecimus hiis apponi. Datum primo die mensis Junii, anno regni Regis Henrici Septimi post conquestum octano.

Confirmacio eiusdem.

Et nos Johannes Cantlowe permissione diuina prior ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis et eiusdem loci conuentus siue capitulum, prefatas literas et contenta in eisdem omnia et singula rata habentes et grata, ipsas et ipsa pro nobis et successoribus nostris quantum in nobis est, de nostris communi consensu pariter et assensu secundum omnem vim, formam et effectum earundem approbamus, ratificamus et per presentes confirmamus. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum commune presentibus duximus apponendum. Datum in Domo nostra capitulari Bathonie, sexto die mensis Septembris Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo tercio.

Confirmacio ut supra.

Et nos Johannes Gunthorp' decanus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, etc. ut supra.

Collacio prebende de Cumba Nona.

Secundo die mensis Septembris, Anno Domini supradicto, Reuerendus in Christo pater dominus Ricardus Dei gracia Bathoni-

ensis et Wellensis episcopus, contulit Magistro Willelmo Silk, legum doctori, canonicatum in ecclesia sua Cathedrali Wellensi et prebendam de Cumba ix^a^, per mortem Magistri Philippi Deuenolde, vltimi possessoris eorundem vacantes, et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantes, ipsumque canonicum eiusdem ecclesie et prebendarium prebende predicte in persona Magistri Johannis Stevyns procuratoris sui sufficienter in hac parte constituti canonicum instituit in et de eisdem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis. Qui quidem Magister Johannes Stevyns prestitit iuramentum ut in forma, et habuit literas collacionis et ad inducendum decano vel subdecano ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis et in eorum absencia presidenti capituli et capitulo eiusdem ecclesie directas, ut est moris.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Writlyngton.

Item, vij^o^ die mensis Septembris Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis admisit dominum Johannem Lorymer, presbiterum, ad ecclesiam parochialem de Wrytlyngton, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Ricardi Goldsmyth, vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per Sebastianum de Gigliis mercatorem, procuratorem Magistri Johannis de Giliis, iuris vtriusque doctoris, canonicique ecclesie Cathedralis Sarisburiensis, necnon prebendarii prebende de Wrytlyngton' in eadem, dicto vicario extitit presentatus, ipsumque rectorem instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus etc. prestitoque abeodem canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali ut est moris.

Institucio vicarii ecclesie prebendalis Sancti Decumani.

Item, xiij° die mensis Septembris Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generali dominum Johannem Raulyn', presbiterum, ad vicariam prebendalem ecclesie parochialis Sancti Decumani, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Willelmi Bremylcombe, vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per discretum virum clericum canonicum et prebendarium prebende predicte, verum dicte vicarie patronum, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria et vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continue inibi residendo iuxta formam constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum primitus iuratum, instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum etc. iuribus etc. Et prestito per eundem dominum Johannem Raulyn canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis vel subdecano, etc.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Erneshill'.

Item, xxvj° die mensis Septembris Anno Domini supradicto, predictus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, dominum Johannem Hunt', clericum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Erneshill, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem naturalem vltimi incumbentis eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per nobilissimam Margaretam comitissam Richemond' et Derby ac Matrem domini nostri Henrici Dei Gracia Regis Anglie Francie et domini Hibernie, veram eiusdem ecclesie patronam eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria et rectorem canonice instituit in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum paro-

chianorum dicte ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et prestito per eundem dominum Johannem Hunt canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali ut moris est.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Aungereslygh.

Item, v^to^ die mensis Octobris Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, Magistrum Johannem Pyers ad ecclesiam parochialem de Aungereslygh, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem Magistri Henrici Prouse, clerici, vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per discretam mulierem dominam Isabellam Neuton', veram eiusdem ecclesie patronam, predicto vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria et rectorem canonice instituit in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum, etc., iuribus, etc. Et prestito per eundem canonice obediencie iuramento. Scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali, etc.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Whatlegh.

Item, xj^o^ die mensis Octobris Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius generalis dominum Johannem Stratton presbiterum, ad ecclesiam parochialem de Whatleigh, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Johannis Slade, vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per discretas personas Thomam Thomas armigerum, et Elizabeth vxorem eius, veros eiusdem ecclesie patronos, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria et rectorem instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis;

curam animarum parochianorum dicte ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et prestito per eundem dominum Johannem canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali, ut est moris.

Institucio cantarie in ecclesia parochiali de Comflorye.

Item, xviij° die eiusdem mensis Octobris, Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis dominum Johannem Godehyue capellanum ad cantariam perpetuam Beate Marie in ecclesia parochiali de Combeflorye fundatam, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Ricardi Haukyns, vltimi capellani eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per probos viros Robertum Stowell, Johannem Moore armigeros, et Johannem Carnecke, clericum, veros eiusdem cantarie patronos, racione feoffamenti Nicholai Fraunces ipsis facti eidem vicario in spiritualibus generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria et capellanum perpetuum, de obseruando ordinaciones statuta et consuetudines dicte cantarie canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, iuribus, etc. Et prestito per eundem dominum Johannem canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali ut est moris.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Norton' Malerewarde.

Item, xix. die eiusdem mensis Octobris, Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis Magistrum Johannem Basset arcium magistrum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Norton' Malerewarde, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per

mortem naturalem domini Radulphi Rushton', vltimi Rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per circumspectum virum Egidium Basset, dominum de Norton predicta, verum eiusdem ecclesie patronum eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem in persona Willelmi Carewe generosi procuratoris sui sufficientis in hac parte constituti canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum dicte ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus etc. Et prestito per predictum procuratorem nomine domini sui canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione officiali peculiaris iurisdiccionis de Chewe, ut moris est.

Collacio prebende de Whitechirch' et Beneger.

Item, ij^do^ die mensis Nouembris Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus reuerendus pater dominus Ricardus Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, contulit Magistro Johanni Hill, presbitero, canonicatum in ecclesia sua Cathedrali Wellensi et prebendam de Whitechirch et Beneger in eadem per liberam resignacionem Magistri Roberti Sherborn arcium magistri vltimi possessoris eorundem in manibus dicti reuerendi factam, et per ipsum admissam vacantes, et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantes, intuitu caritatis, ipsumque canonicum eiusdem ecclesie et prebendarium prebende predicte canonice instituit et inuestiuit in et de eisdem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, iuribus et consuetudinibus etc. Et prestito per eundem Magistrum Johannem Hill canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano vel subdecano ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis et in eorum absencia presidenti capituli et capitulo ut in forma consueta.

Collacio precentorie in ecclesia Cathedrali Wellensi.

Item, ij^{do} die mensis Nouembris, Anno Domini supradicto, idem reuerendus pater precentoriam in ecclesia sua Cathedrali Wellensi per mortem naturalem Magistri Thome Overay, vltimi possessoris eiusdem vacantem, et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantem, contulit Magistro Willelmo Wareham, legum doctori, meritis suis efflorentibus, intuitu caritatis, ipsumque precentorem eiusdem ecclesie cathedralis Wellensis canonice instituit et inuestiuit in et de eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, de obseruando statuta et ordinaciones dicte ecclesie, iuribus et consuetudinibus, mandatum fuit decano ecclesie cathedralis predicte ac ipso absente subdecano, et ipsis absentibus presidenti capituli et capitulo eiusdem ad inducendum eundem vel eius procuratorem ut in forma consueta.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Chesilborowe.

Item, xiiij^{o} die mensis Nouembris, Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis Magistrum Willelmum Burges, presbiterum, ad ecclesiam parochialem de Chesilborowghe per liberam resignacionem domini Johannis Boneaunger, vltimi rectoris eiusdem in manibus suis factam, et per ipsum admissam, vacantem, ad quam per discretam mulieram Alienoram Twynyo, viduam, veram eiusdem ecclesie patronam, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria et rectorem canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum dicte ecclesie sibi in Domino committentes, iuribus etc. Et recepto ab eodem canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali ut est moris.

Copia pluralitatis Magistri Thome Roley.

Sixtus episcopus seruus seruorum Dei dilecto filio Thome Roley, rectori parochialis ecclesie de Northcavton, Exoniensis diocesis, in legibus bacallario, salutem et apostolicam benedictionem. Litterarum sciencia, vite ac morum honestas, aliaque laudabilia probitatis ac virtutum merita, super quibus apud nos fidedigno commendaris testimonio, nos inducunt vt te specialibus fauoribus et graciis consequamur. Hinc est quod nos, qui dudum inter alia uoluimus et ordinauimus quod per quancunque signaturam deinceps faciendam nulli, cuiuscunque dignitatis status gradus vel condicionis foret, certis tunc expressis personis exceptis, daretur dispensatio quod duas parochiales ecclesias uel dignitates maiores post pontificales in Cathedralibus seu principales in collegiatis ecclesiis vel vnam cum reliqua eorum insimul retinere valeret, nisi ipse parochiales ecclesie adeo contigue et inuicem propinque forent quod eis per vnum commode deseruiri posset illarumque fructus redditus et prouentus insimul ultra viginti quatuor florenos auri de camera secundum communem extimacionem non valerent annuatim, et si per preoccupacionem uel alias littere super tali dispensacione confecte reperirentur, ille nullius existerent roboris uel momenti: volentes te qui, ut asseris, parochialem ecclesiam de Northtavton, Exoniensis diocesis, inter alia obtines, premissorum meritorum tuorum intuitu fauore prosequi gracioso, teque a quibuscunque excommunicacionis, suspensionis et interdicti aliisque ecclesiasticis sentenciis, censuris et penis a iure vel ab homine quauis occasione vel causa latis, si quibus quomodolibet ligatus existis, ad effectum presencium duntaxat consequendum harum serie absoluentes et absolutum fore censentes, necnon omnia alia et singula beneficia ecclesiastica sine cura que obtines, ac cum cura et sine cura que expectas, ac in quibus et ad que ius tibi quomodolibet competit, quecunque quotcun-

que et qualiacunque sint, eorumque ac dicte ecclesie fructuum, redditnum et prouentuum veros annuos valores presentibus pro expressis habentes, tuis in hac parte supplicacionibus inclinati, tecum vt vna cum dicta ecclesia vnum aliud, et illa per te dimissa, quecunque duo alia beneficia ecclesiastica curata seu alias, inuicem incompatibilia, eciamsi parochiales ecclesie vel earum perpetue vicarie, cantarie vel libere capelle, hospitalia vel annualia seruicia clericis secularibus in titulum perpetui beneficii ecclesiastici assignari solita, aut dignitates, personatus administraciones vel officia in Cathedralibus, eciam metropolitanis vel collegiatis ecclesiis, et dignitates ipse in Cathedralibus eciam metropolitanis, post pontificales maiores, seu collegiatis ecclesiis huiusmodi principales, vel tales mixtum fuerint et ad dignitates personatus administraciones vel officia huiusmodi consueuerint, qui per electionem assumi eisque cura emineat animarum si tibi alias canonice conferantur aut eligaris, presenteris vel assumaris ad illam et in eis instituaris, recipere et insimul quoad uixeris retinere, illaque simul vel successive simpliciter vel ex causa permutacionis quociens tibi placuerit dimittere, et loco dimissi vel dimissorum aliud vel alia simile vel dissimile aut similia vel dissimilia beneficium vel beneficia ecclesiasticum vel ecclesiastica duo dumtaxat inuicem incompatibilia similiter recipere, et eciam quoad uixeris ut prefertur retinere libere et licite valeas, uoluntate priori et ordinacione premissis, quodque ex dictis personis exceptis non existis, et generalis concilii ac quibusuis aliis apostolicis necnon bone memorie Octonis et Octoboni olim in regno Anglie sedis apostolica legatorum, ac in prouincialibus et synodalibus conciliis editis generalibus vel specialibus constitucionibus et ordinacionibus, statutis quoque et consuetudinibus ecclesiarum in quibus incompatib[il]ia beneficia huiusmodi forsan fuerint iuramento confirmacione apostolica vel quauis firmitate alia roboratis, ceterisque contrariis ne-

quaquam obstantibus, auctoritate apostolica tenore presencium de speciali gracia dispensamus; prouiso quod ecclesia de Northtavton', et alia incompatibilia beneficia huiusmodi debitis non fraudentur obsequiis, et animarum cura in ecclesia de Northtavton' et si qua illis immineat aliis incompatibilibus beneficiis predictis, nullatenus negligatur. Nulli ergo omnino hominum liceat hanc paginam nostre absolucionis et dispensacionis infringere, vel ei ausu temerario contraire. Si quis autem hoc attemptare presumpserit, indignacionem Omnipotentis Dei ac Beatorum Petri et Pauli apostolorum Eius se nouerit incursurum. Datum Rome apud Sanctum Petrum anno Incarnacionis Dominice millesimo cccc^mo^ septuagesimo nono, terciodecimo kalendas Januarii, pontificatus nostri anno nono.

Institucio canonici possessoris ecclesie olim curate de Gosebraden'.

Item, septimo die mensis Decembris, Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis Magistrum Johannem Wyche, clericum, in legibus bacallarium, ad ecclesiam olim curatam de Gosebraden', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Johannis Howse vltimi canonici possessoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per discretum virum Johannem Marshall armigerum, verum eiusdem ecclesie patronum, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et canonicum possessorem in persona domini Gilberti Grennowe capellani, procuratoris sui sufficienter in hac parte constituti, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertineciis vniuersis, iuribus et consuetudinibus etc. Et prestito per eundem procuratorem nomine domini sui canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali, ut est moris etc.

Collacio vicarie de Congresbury.

Item, xxvij° die mensis Nouembris, Anno Domini supradicto, idem reuerendus pater vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Congresbury, suarum diocesis et collacionis, per mortem Magistri Thome Overay vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, magistro Willelmo Tomson' sacre theologie bacallario, contulit intuitu caritatis, ipsumque vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continue residendo in eadem iuxta formam constitucionum legatinarum in hac parte editarum, instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum eiusdem ecclesie eidem in Domino committendo, prestitoque per eundem canonice obediencie iuramento, mandatum fuit Archidiacono Wellie siue eius officiali ad inducendum eundem ut moris est, etc.

Institucio vicarii ecclesie parochialis de Wynsham.

Item, xxiij° die Decembris Anno Domini supradicto, antenominatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, apud Welliam Magistrum Johannem Barry arcium magistrum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Wynsham, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem Magistri Henrici Goneld, vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabilem virum Magistrum Thomam Barowe, prepositum ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, verum dicte vicarie patronum, eidem vicario in spiritualibus extitit presentatus, in persona sua propria admisit et vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continue residendo in eadem iuxta exigenciam constitucionum Legatinarum in ea parte editarum iuratum, instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam aminarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie parochialis sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consue-

tudinibus etc. Et recepto a dicto Magistro Johanne Barry canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis antedicte, seu eius officiali etc.

Institucio vicarii ecclesie parochialis de Hampton'.

Item, ij^{do} mensis Januarii Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis apud Welliam, dominum Thomam Rundell presbiterum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Hampton', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Willelmi Bikkenell, vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos viros priorem et conuentum ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis, veros eiusdem vicarie patronos, eidem vicario in spiritualibus extitit presentatus, in persona sua propria admisit et vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continue residendo in eadem iuxta exigenciam constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum iuratum, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino pleniuscommittendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus etc. Et recepto a dicto domino Thoma canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione Archidiacono Bathoniensi seu eius officiali, ut est moris etc.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Lukcombe.

Item, quinto die mensis Januarii, Anno Domini supradicto, antenominatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis dominum Johannem Treryes presbiterum, ad ecclesiam parochialem de

Lukeombe, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Johannis Come vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per discretum virum Johannem Arundell de Treryes armigerum, verum eiusdem ecclesie patronum eidem vicario in spiritualibus extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria et rectorem canonice instituit in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vinuersis; curam animarum parochianorum dicte ecclesie sibi in Domino committentes, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus dicti reuerendi patris ecclesiarumque Cathedralium Bathoniensis et Wellensis dignitate in omnibus semper saluis. Et recepto ab eodem domino Johanne canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali, ut est moris.

Institucio vicarie de Huyssh.

Item, xx^mo^ die eiusdem mensis Januarii, Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis Magistrum Rogerum Labourne arcium magistrum, ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Hwyssh, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem Magistri Thome Wodehele vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabilem virum Magistrum Willelmum Nykke, Archidiaconum Wellie verum eiusdem vicarie patronum, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, in persona sua propria admisit et vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continue inibi residendo iuxta exigenciam constitucionum Legatinarum in ea parte editarum iuratum, instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinentiis vuiuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie parochialis sibi in Domine plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus etc. Et prestito per eundem Magistrum Rogerum Labourne canonice obedienciе

iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellie, seu eius officiali ut moris est.

Collacio domorum canonicalium.

Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, dilecto nobis in Christo Magistro Ricardo Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctori, canonico ecclesie nostre Cathedralis Wellensis, salutem graciam et benedicciionem. Domos illas canonicales in ciuitate nostra Wellensi situatas, quas Magister Johannes Wanesforde eiusdem ecclesie nostre Cathedralis subdecanus et canonicus residenciarius vltimo inhabitauit, per mortem eiusdem Magistri Johannis vacantes, et ad nostram collacionem pleno iure spectantes, tibi conferimus intuitu caritatis, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis possidendas, tibique easdem iuxta morem et consuetudinem in dicta nostra ecclesia hactenus vsitatos, concedimus per presentes, iuribus et consuetudinibus nostris episcopalibus ecclesiarumque nostrarum Cathedralium Bathoniensis et Wellensis dignitate in omnibus semper saluis. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum etc. Datum xij° die mensis Aprilis, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo tercio et nostre translacionis anno primo.

Collacio domorum canonicalium.

Item, xij° die mensis Maii, Anno Domini supradicto, idem reuerendus pater in manerio suo de Dogmersfelde, Wyntoniensis diocesis, domos illas canonicales in ciuitate nostra Wellensi situatas, per liberam resignacionem Magistri Ricardi Nykke, vltimi possessoris earundem vacantes, et ad collacionem prefati Reuerendi patris spectantes, Magistro Radulpho Lepton, canonico eiusdem ecclesie sue Cathedralis Wellensis, contulit intuitu caritatis, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; sibique easdem domos iuxta

morem et consuetudinem in dicta sua Cathedrali ecclesia in ea parte hactenus vsitatas concessit possidendas, iuribus et consuetudinibus etc. Datum etc.

Collacio prebende de Wedmore Secunda.

Item, xij° die Februarii, Anno Domini supradicto, idem reuerendus pater contulit Magistro Andree Bensted in artibus magistro, canonicatum in ecclesia sua Cathedrali Wellensi et prebendam de Wedmore secunda in eadem, per liberam resignacionem Magistri Petri Huse vltimi possessoris eorundem in manibus dicti reuerendi patris factam, et per ipsum admissam vacantes, et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantes, intuitu caritatis, ipsumque canonicum eiusdem ecclesie et prebendarium prebende predicte canonice instituit et inuestiuit in et de eisdem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, iuribus et consuetudinibus etc. Et prestito per eundem Magistrum Andream Benested canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano vel subdecano ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis et in eorum absencia presidenti capituli et capitulo ut in forma consueta.

Litere dimissorie.

Item, x^mo^ die mensis Marcii, Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis apud Welliam dimisit Willelmum Capron' Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis accolitum, ad omnes sacros ordines sub forma consueta.

Litere dimissorie.

Item, eisdem die et anno prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis apud Welliam dimisit Magistrum Jacobum Grenehalgh, in dicta Bathoniensi et Wellensi diocese domicilium habentem subdiaconum, ad omnes sacros ordines habentem domicilium in

dicta Bathoniensi et Wellensi diocese per spacium decem annorum et amplius, ut in forma consueta.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie prebendalis de Bathwyke.

Item, xv die Marcii Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis Magistrum Johannem Peese, arcium magistrum, ad rectoriam perpetuam ecclesie prebendalis de Bathwyke, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem Magistri Thome Smyth vltimi rectoris eiusdem ecclesie prebendalis vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos mulieres Abbatissam et Conuentum Monasterii siue Domus Reguralis Sancte Crucis de Wherwell ordinis Sancti Benedicti, Wyntoniensis diocesis, veros eiusdem ecclesie prebendalis patronos, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, in persona Magistri Thome Compton' procuratoris sui sufficienter in hac parte constituti admisit et rectorem eiusdem ecclesie prebendalis canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, iuribus et consuetudinibus etc. Et recepto ab eodem procuratore nomine domini sui canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Bathoniensi seu eius officiali vt est moris, etc.

Manumissio Johannis Croker de Chedder Senioris, etc., ut patet.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum peruenerit, Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noueritis nos prefatum episcopum manumisisse et extra manum nostram posuisse, ac ab omni iugo seruitutis villenagii liberasse Johannem Croker de Chedder seniorem filium Roberti Croker nuper de eadem, housebondman, Johannem Croker, Robertum Croker, Thomam Croker, et Willelmum

Croker, filios dicti Johannis Croker, natiuos nostros ad maneria siue ad manerium de Chedder et Woky vel ad eorum utrumque spectantes, seu ad aliquod aliud manerium siue dominium episcopatus Bathoniensis et Wellensis seu ecclesie Bathoniensis et Wellensis pertinentes siue spectantes racione episcopatus predicti; ac ipsos Johannem Croker, Johannem, Robertum, Thomam, et Willelmum Croker, filios ipsius Johannis Croker, in totis et singulis exitibus et sequelis suis de illis vel aliquo illorum procreatis siue procreandis liberos fecisse et quietos ab omni iugo seruitutis et seruili condiccione. Ita quod liberi existant et quilibet illorum liber existat, et in quascunque mundi partes euolauerint seu aliquis eorum euolauerit plena gaudeant et quilibet illorum plena gaudeat libertate. Et quod sint quieti et quilibet eorum sit quietus ab omni iugo seruitutus et villenagii erga nos et successores nostros imperpetuum. Ita quod nos et successores nostri de omni iure et titulo villenagii siue seruitutis in predictos Johanne Croker de Chedder, Johanne Croker, Roberto, Thoma, et Willelmo Croker, filii eiusdem Johannis Croker, aut in aliqua exitu seu sequela eorum procreata siue procreanda aut in terris et tenementis, bonis et catallis suis quibuscunque, aut alicuius eorundem perquisitis et imposterum inquerendis, de ceteris exigendo vel vendicando, per presens scriptum nostrum sumus exclusi imperpetuum per presentes. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum fecimus hiis apponi. Datum vicesimo die mensis Maii anno regni Regis Henrici Septimi octauo et nostre translacionis anno secundo. Confirmacio ut in aliis concessionibus.

Licencia concessa Monacho ad deseruiendum cure capelle de Ly Abbatis.

Ricardus Nykke etc. religioso viro domino Matheo Tyly Monacho, salutem in omnium Saluatore. Ut per vnum mensem a

die date presencium continue numerandum, capelle ville siue hamelette de Ly Abbotes ab ecclesia parochiali de Bedmystr' Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis dependentis, in missis et aliis diuinis officiis deseruire, necnon incolis, et inhabitantibus ibidem sacramenta et sacramentalia iuxta consuetudinem laudabilem hactenus in ea parte obseruare et absque preiudicio ecclesie parochialis predicte ministrare licite valeas, eo non obstante quod monachus et religiosus existas, tibi tenore presencium auctoritate dicti reuerendi (*sic*) nobis in hac parte commissa licenciam concedimus specialem. Datum sub sigillo officii nostri xvij° die mensis Marcii Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo tercio, et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno ij^do^.

Collacio ecclesie parochialis Sancti Michaelis de Ilchestr' super Portam, iure deuoluto.

Item, xix°. die Marcii Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis apud Welliam, Magistro Edmundo Wallssh' capellano ecclesiam parochialem Sancti Michaelis de Ilchestr' super Portam, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Thome Draper vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, et ad collacionem dicti reuerendi patris iure sibi deuoluto pleno iure spectantem, auctoritate dicti reuerendi patris sibi in hac parte commissa, contulit intuitu caritatis, et ipsum rectorem instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus etc. Et prestito per eundem canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inducecione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali.

Institucio vicarie ecclesie parochialis de Meere.

Item, xxij^{do}. mensis Marcii, Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis apud Welliam, Magistrum Johannem Newman', arcium magistrum, ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Mere, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Roberti Silly vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per illustrissimum et metuendissimum in Christo principem et dominum nostrum dominum Henricum, Dei gracia Regem Anglie et Francie et dominum Hibernie, verum eiusdem vicarie hac vice patronum, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, in persona sua propria admisit, et vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continue inibi residendo iuxta formam constitucionum Legatinarum in ea parte editarum iuratum, instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus etc. Et prestito per eundem Magistrum Johannem Newman canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono iurisdiccionis Glaston' etc.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Yarlyngton'.

Item, eisdem die et anno supradictis, memoratus vicarius generalis Magistrum Thomam Hobbys in artibus magistrum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Yarlyngton', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem Magistri Johannis Newman' in manibus dicti vicarii generalis factam et per ipsum admissam vacantem, ad quam per illustrissimum et metuendissimum in Christo principem et dominum nostrum dominum Henricum Dei gracia Regem Anglie et Francie et dominum Hibernie verum ecclesie

eiusdem patronum, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem in persona Johannis Haburfeld clerici procuratoris sui sufficienter in hac parte constituti, instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus etc. Et prestito per eundem procuratorem nomine Domini sui canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellie seu eius officiali, ut est moris etc.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Hungerford Farley.

Item, xxviij°. die mensis Marcii, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^. nonagesimo, iiij^to^. antenominatus vicarius (*sic*) in spiritualibus generalis, dominum Willelmum Fyney capellanum, ad ecclesiam parochialem de Hungerforde Farleigh, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Thome Were in manibus dicti vicarii (*sic*) in spiritualibus factam, et per ipsum admissam vacantem, ad quam per egregium virum Walterum Hungerforde militem, verum dicte ecclesie patronum, dicto vicario generali extitit presentatus, in persona sua propria admisit ac rectorem instituit canonice in et de eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie parochialis sibi in Domino plenius committentes, iuribus etc. Et prestito per dictum dominum Willelmum Fyney canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellie seu eius officiali, ut est moris.

Collacio prebende de Barton'.

Item, primo die mensis Februarii, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^. nonagesimo tercio, idem reuerendus pater in Hospicio suo extra Barras Noui Templi in Suburbiis London' situato, contulit

Magistro Willelmo Thomson' in theologia baccallario canonicatum in ecclesia sua Cathedrali Wellensi et prebendam de Barton' in eadem, per mortem domini Johannis Hill vltimi canonici et prebendarii eorundem vacantes et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantes, intuitu caritatis, ipsumque canonicum eiusdem ecclesie et prebendarium prebende predicte canonice instituit et inuestiuit in et de eisdem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, iuribus et consuetudinibus etc. Et prestito per eundem Magistrum Willelmum Thomson canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano vel subdecano ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, et in eorum absencia presidenti capituli et capitulo ut in forma consueta.

Litera testimonialis super induccione Magistri Thome Barowe prepositi ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis.

Vniuersis Christi fidelibus presentes literas inspecturis vel audituris, Johannes Stevens canonicus et residenciarius ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noueritis nos literas reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi, permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, recepisse tenorem qui sequitur continentes:—Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus dilecto nobis in Christo filio Johanni Stevens canonico et residenciario ecclesie nostre Cathedralis Wellensis, salutem, graciam et benediccionem. Quia nos dilecto in Christo filio Magistro Thome Barowe, Archidiacono Colcestr', prepositurام ecclesie nostre Cathedralis Wellensis canonicumque et prebendarium prebende de Comba xij^a. in eadem, eidem prepositure annexe vacan[tes] et ad nostram collacionem pleno iure spectan[tes] contulimus intuitu caritatis, vobis mandamus quatenus eundem Magistrum Thomam Barowe aut suum procuratorem

ad hoc nomine suo constitutum in corporalem dicte prepositure canonicatusque et prebende possessionem realem realiter inducatis, aut sic induci faciatis, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, eidemque stallum in choro et locum in capitulo eisdem spectantia assignetis. Datum in hospicio nostro extra Barras Noui Templi in Suburbiis ciuitatis London' situato, vltimo die mensis Marcii Anno Domini millesimo cccc^{mo}. nonagesimo tercio et nostre translacionis anno primo.—Post quarum quidem literarum reuerendarum recepcionem pariter et inspeccionem, Nos Johannes Stevens canonicus et residenciarius ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis antedictus, volentes ut tenemur vlterius exequi mandatum reuerendi patris nostri predicti in hac parte, prefatum Magistrum Thomam Barowe in persona Magistri Willelmi Boket procuratoris sui sufficienter et legitime constituti, in realem et corporalem possessionem prepositure ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis memorate, canonicatusque et prebende de Comba xij^{a} in eadem dicte prepositure annexorum, iurium et pertinenciorum suorum vniuersorum, decimo octauo die mensis Aprilis Anno Domini supradicto induximus, stallumque in choro et locum in capitulo eiusdem Cathedralis Cathedralis (*sic*) Wellensis dicte prepositure canonicatuique et prebende ab antiquo debita eidem Magistro Willelmo Boket, nomine procuratoris domini sui antedicti assignauimus et inuestiuimus, ut moris est, prestito primitus iuramento corporali per eundem de obseruando omnia et singula statuta, ordinaciones et laudabiles consuetudines ad predictam prepositurام canonicatum et prebendam ab antiquo spectantes siue pertinentes, iuxta prefate ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis laudabiles consuetudines et statuta, ut est moris. In cuius rei testimonium, quia sigillum mei Johannis Stevens predicti quampluribus est incognitum, sigillum reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi Dei gratia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi sepedicti presentibus apponi procurani. Et nos igitur Bathoniensis et

Wellensis episcopus antedictus ad instanciam et testimonium prefati Johannis Stevens, sigillum nostrum presentibus apposuimus in fidem et testimonium omnium et singulorum premissorum. Datum decimo octauo die mensis Aprilis Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^. nonagesimo tercio.

[S]EQUITUR ANNUS DOMINI MILLESIMUS CCCC^mus^ NONAGESIMUS QUARTUS.

Institucio ecclesie parochialis de Lucton'.

Item, xv die mensis Aprilis Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis apud Welliam, dominum Johannem Colyns presbiterum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Lucton', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Johannis Chamberleyn', vltimi rectoris eiusdem in manibus dicti vicarii generalis factam et per ipsum admissam vacantem, ad presentacionem nobilis viri Johannis domini de Cobham veri eiusdem ecclesie patroni, admisit et rectorem in propria sua persona instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum eiusdem ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus, etc. Et prestito per eundem dominum Johannem Colyns canonice obedienciie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro (*sic*) induccione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali ut est moris.

Licencia absentandi ab ecclesia causa studii.

Ricardus Nykke, etc., dilecto nobis in Christo Willelmo Ben', vicario perpetuo ecclesie parochialis de Wemdon', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, salutem in omnium Saluatore. Fusis nobis pro parte tua precibus fauorabiliter inclinati, vt ab ecclesia tua pre-

dicta studio literarum insistendo in aliqua vniuersitate per triennium a data presencium continue numerandum licite te valeas absentare, fructusque redditus et prouentus eiusdem integre percipere, ac si in eadem resideres, dumtamen eidem ecclesie tue interim competenter deseruiatur in diuinis, et animarum cura minime negligatur in eadem, procuratoremque idoneum ibidem dimittas, qui dicto reuerendo patri et officiariis suis debite respondeat vice tui, liberam in Domino tenore presencium, auctoritate dicti reuerendi patris nobis commissa, tibi concedimus facultatem. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum officii nostri presentibus apposuimus. Datum Wellie xvij° die mensis Aprilis, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo quarto, et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno secundo.

Dimissio ad Ordines.

Item, xij° die mensis Maii, Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius generalis dimisit Magistrum Alexandrum Bosgrove, in legibus bacallarium, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad omnes ordines tam minores quam sacros, ut in forma, etc.

Institucio vicarie ecclesie parochialis de Banwell'.

Item, xxj die Maii Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis Magistrum Robertum Asshecum, arcium magistrum, presbiterum, ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Banwell, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem Magistri Thome Wodyngton', decretorum doctoris, vltimi vicarii eiusdem, in manus dicti vicarii generalis factam et per ipsum admissam vacantem, ad quam per probum virum Reginaldum Bray militem verum dicte vicarie patronum, racione aduocacionis illius vicarie ipsi hac vice facte ut plenius

vpparet, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et vicarium perpetuum de continuo et personaliter residendo in eadem iuxta formam constitucionum Legatinarum in ea parte editarum primitus iuratum, instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum prefate vicarie sibi in Domino plenarie committendo, iuribus, etc. Et prestito per dictum Magistrum Robertum Assheeum canonice obedienciе iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione officiali iurisdiccionis de Banwell, vt est moris.

HIC MUTATUR ANNUS CONSECRACIONIS DOMINI EPISCOPI IJdus IN ANNUM TERCIUM.

Presentacio ad domum siue hospitale Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie.

Reuerendo in Christo patri et domino domino Ricardo permissione diuina Bathoniensi et Wellensi episcopo, eiusve vicario in spiritualibus generali, vestri humiles et deuoti Henricus Vaughan, maior ville Bristollie, ac tota communitas eiusdem ville, omnimodas reuerencias tanto patri debitas cum honore. Ad Hospitale siue domum sancti Johannis Baptiste in Redeclyfpytte, Bristoll', quod vel que de nostro patronatu existit, de magistro sive custode confratribus et confratre eiusdem penitus destitutam ac vacantem, dilectum nobis in Christo dominum Ricardum Colyns presbiterum ad ordinem regulam et obseruanciam in eodem hospitali sive domo antiquitus solitas et consuetas profiteri se volentem ut asseruit, presentamus, humiliter supplicantes quatenus eundem dominum Ricardum ad professionem huiusmodi ordinis regule et obseruancie in eodem hospitali admittere, ac ipsum sic admissum et professum, necnon regulari habitu qui ad magistrum dicti Hospitalis pertinet, siue pertinere debet indutum, in magistrum Hospitalis siue domus illius canonice instituere cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis,

ceteraque que vestro in hac parte incumbunt officio pastorali, graciose peragere dignetur paternitas uestra prelibata, quam diu conseruet summa Trinitas increata. In cuius rei testimonium tam sigillum officii maioratus ville predicte, quam sigillum nostrum commune eiusdem ville presentibus apponi mandauimus. Datum in Guyhalde Bristollie predicte, die Mercurii in Vigilia Ascensionis Domini, anno regni Regis Henrici Septimi post conquestum Anglie nono, et Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo quarto.

Commissio ad recipiendum professionem Magistri Ricardi Colyns.

Johannes Vowell, legum doctor, canonicus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis ac venerabilis viri Magistri Ricardi Nykke vtriusque iuris doctoris, canonici dicte ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarii in spiritualibus generalis, commissarius ac vices gerens, dilecto nobis in Christo patri Benedicto Prandergyste, confratri domus siue hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie, ordinis Sancti Augustini, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, salutem in omnium Saluatore. Cum dilectus nobis in Christo Magister Ricardus Colyns in sacra theologia bacallarius, se Deo dedicare, vitamque regularem per religionis ingressum ex sincere devocionis affectu, prout accepimus suscipere intendat, professionemque ordinis Sancti Augustini, que secundum Deum et regulam ipsius Beati Augustini in dicto Hospitali institutus esse dinoscitur, quod quidem hospitale per mortem fratris Johannis Mede, vltimi magistri eiusdem, aliquamdiu fuit et est de presenti gubernatoris solacio destitutum, profiteri desideret; circumspeccioni igitur tue ad admittendum prefatum Magistrum Ricardum Colyns in confratrem eiusdem Hospitalis, ac eciam regu-

larem per dicti ordinis confratres emitti solitam professionem iuxta formam inferius annotatam recipiendum; necnon regularem habitum iuxta dicti Hospitalis consuetudinem et instituta conferendum, et exhibendum, aliaque omnia et singula faciendum, disponendum, ordinandum, et exequendum que in premissis et circa ea necessaria fuerint seu quomodolibet opportuna, plenam et liberam tenore presencium concedimus potestatem; mandantes quatenus de omni eo quod feceris in hac parte nos negocio huiusmodi legitime expedito, per literas tuas harum seriem continentes sigillo autentico consignatas, vna cum cedula quam idem Magister Ricardus in sua professione subscribet, nobis transmittenda reddas debite cerciores.

Forma professionis per dictum Magistrum Ricardum faciende, sequitur et est talis:—

Forma professionis.

Ego Ricardus Colyns presbiter, promitto continenter viuere ac sine proprio, iuxta regulam et obseruanciam in hac domo siue hospitali Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie ab antiquo obseruatam et consuetam; profiteorque ordinem regularem Sancti Augustini iuxta instituta dicte domus siue hospitalis, necnon premissa me fideliter obseruaturum obligo et astringo per presentes. In cuius rei testimonium huic cedule manu propria subscripsi. Et hoc facto subscribat cedule, crucem faciendo in hunc modum +. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum officii nostri presentibus apposuimus. Datum Wellie, xxiij° die mensis Maii, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo quarto, et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno secundo.

Certificatorium super receptione professionis.

Venerabili ac circumspecto viro Magistro Johanni Vowell, legum doctori, canonico ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ac Vene-

rabilis viri Magistri Ricardi Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctoris, canonici dicte ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarii in spiritualibus generalis, commissario ac vices gerenti, vester humilis et deuotus frater dominus Benedictus Prendergyste, confrater domus siue hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie, ordinis Sancti Augustini, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, omnimodas reuerencias tanto venerabili viro debitas cum honore. Literas vestre commissionis reuerende nuper recepi tenorem continentes retroscriptas, etc. Quarum quidem literarum vestre commissionis vigore et auctoritate retroscriptum Magistrum Ricardum Colyns in theologia bacallarium, iuxta modum et formam in dictis vestris literis reuerendis expressos et annotatos professum, in confratrem dicti Hospitalis admisi et recepi. Ceteraque omnia et singula que in dicto vestro mandato reuerendo et commissione continentur, humiliter perimpleui et diligenter executus sum. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum commune dicti Hospitalis apponi fecimus. Datum in Domo nostro capitulari dicti hospitalis, xxvj^{to} die mensis Maii Anno Domini infrascripto.

Tenor institucionis.

Johannes Vowell legum doctor, canonicus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ac venerabilis viri Magistri Ricardi Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctoris, canonici dicte ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi Dei gracia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarii in spiritualibus generalis commissarius ac vices gerens, religioso viro Magistro Ricardo Colyns presbitero, salutem in omnium Saluatore. Ad domum siue Hospitale Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie, Bathoniensis et Wellensis

diocesis, per mortem fratris Johannis Mede, vltimi prioris siue magistri eiusdem vacantem, ad quam vel quod per probos viros Henricum Vaughan, maiorem ville Bristollie predicte et totam communitatem eiusdem ville, veros dicte Domus siue Hospitalis patronos, nobis presentatus existis; te in ordine sacerdotali et etate legitima constitutum, ac ordinem et regulam Sancti Augustini iuxta instituta eiusdem Domus siue Hospitalis expresse professum, habitumque religionis huiusmodi in te suscipientem, admittimus et priorem siue magistrum instituimus canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam regimen et administracionem bonorum tam spiritualium quam temporalium domus siue hospitalis antedicti, tibi in domino plenarie committentes; iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus dicti reuerendi patris ecclesiarumque suarum Cathedralium Bathoniensis et Wellensis dignitate in omnibus semper saluis. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum officii nostri presentibus apposuimus. Datum Wellie xxvij^{mo} die mensis Maii, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^{mo} nonagesimo quarto, et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno tercio. Scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Bathoniensi seu eius officiali, etc.

Juramentum Prioris siue Magistri factum in Admissione Sua.

In Dei nomine, amen. Ego Ricardus Colyns, magister Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie, ordinem ac religionem Sancti Augustini in dicto Hospitali expresse professus, promitto, voueo et iuro ad hec Sancta Dei euuangelia per me corporaliter tacta, quod bona spiritualia et temporalia ipsius Hospitalis dispersa cum omni diligencia congregabo, congregataque et habita salua iusta et idonea administracione seruabo, inuentariumque de bonis huiusmodi fideliter conficiam, et de administracione per me facta coram loci diocesano seu eius deputato, iuxta sacrorum canonum exigenciam

reddam racionem, numerum confratrum atque pauperum iuxta fundacionem et ordinacionem atque vires facultatum Hospitalis predicti ibidem fore cum omni celeritate pro viribus procurabo, ac huiusmodi fundacionem et ordinacionem laudabilesque ipsius hospitalis consuetudines atque iura, quantum in me est defendam, loci diocesano et eius officiali ac ministris in licitis et canonicis mandatis humiliter obediam ,sic me Deus adiuuet et hec Sancta. In cuius rei testimonium subscribens propriis manibus hic facio signum crucis +.

Carta aduocacionis vicarie ecclesie parochialis de Carehampton'.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum peruenerit, Johannes Cantlowe, permissione diuina prior ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis et eiusdem loci conuentus salutem. Sciatis nos prefatum priorem et conuentum vnanimi assensu et concessu nostris concessisse venerabili in Christo dompno Johanni Abyndon', priori de Dunster, ac venerabili viro Hugoni Lutterell militi, aduocacionem ecclesie parochialis de Carehampton' in comitatu Somersetie, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, habendam eis pro vnica et proxima vacacione eiusdem ecclesie tantum. Ita quod licebit eisdem ad eorum libitum auctoritate presencium idoneam personam nominare et ad dictam ecclesiam cum proxime vacauerit, litteratorie presentare, ac omnia et singula que circa premissa necessaria fuerint et oportuna, exigere et perimplere, adeo bene, libere, plene, et integre prout nos faceremus si presens concessio nostra facta non fuisset. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum commune presentibus apponi fecimus. Datum in Domo nostra capitulari, sexto die mensis Nouembris, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^{mo} octogesimo nono.

Institucio vicarie ecclesie parochialis de Carehampton'.

Item, primo die mensis Julii, Anno Domini supradicto, Magister Johannes commissarii sufficienter deputatus, dominum Ricardum Harrys, presbiterum, ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Carehampton', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Johannis Chaundeller, vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles viros dompnum Johannem Abyndon', priorem de Dunster, et Hugonem Lutterell militem veros dicte vicarie patronos, racione aduocacionis illius ecclesie ipsis hac vice tantum facte, ut plenius apparet, eidem commissario extitit presentatus, admisit et vicarium perpetuum de continuo et personaliter inibi residendo primitus iuratum, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum prefate ecclesie sibi in Domino plenarie committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus etc. Et prestito per eundem dominum Ricardum Harrys canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis seu eius officiali, ut est moris. NOTA BENE. Et memorandum quod dictus dominus Ricardus Harrys et Johannes Glover obligarunt seipsos Clementi Clere et Johanni Morecote de London' per scriptum suum obligatorium quod in filarcio eiusdem temporis anni pendet, in centum libris sterlingorum soluendis eisdem aut eorum alteri seu eorum certo attornato in festo Sancti Michaelis Archangeli proximo futuro, in euentu quo reuerendum patrem dominum Ricardum Dei gracia Bathoniensem et Wellensem episcopum, non seruauerint aud seruari faciant indempnem erga quoscumque, occasione admissionis predicti domini Ricardi Harrys ad eandem ecclesiam, de cuius patronatu non plene constat, inquisicione in ea parte pretermissa, si occasione huiusmodi quomodolibet turbatus vexatus seu grauatus fuerit reuerendus pater antedictus.

Collacio archidiaconatus Wellie.

Item, decimo die mensis Julii Anno Domini supradicto, idem Reuerendus pater in hospicio suo London', Archidiaconatum in ecclesia sua Cathedrali Wellensi et prebendam de Hwyssh eidem Archidiaconatui annexam per liberam resignacionem Magistri Willelmi Nykke, vltimi archidiaconi et prebendarii eorundem vacantes, contulit Magistro Ricardo Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctori, intuitu caritatis, ipsumque Archidiaconum et prebendarium prebende predicte canonice instituit in et de eisdem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis. Scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis seu in eius absencia subdecano etc.

Collacio vicarie ecclesie parochialis de Congresbury.

Item, xv° die eiusdem mensis et Anno Domini supradicto, idem reuerendus pater in hospicio suo London', vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Congresbury suarum diocesis et collacionis, per liberam resignacionem Magistri Willelmi Thomson vltimi vicarii eiusdem in manibus dicti reuerendi patris factam et per ipsum admissam, vacantem, Magistro Thome Tomyowe vtriusque iuris doctori, contulit intuitu caritatis, ipsumque vicarium perpetuum de personaliter et continue inibi residendo in eadem iuxta formam constitucionum legatinarum in hac parte editarum [primitus iuratum], instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum eiusdem ecclesie eidem in Domino committendo, iuribus etc. Prestitoque per eundem canonice obediencie iuramento, mandatum fuit Archidiacono Wellie siue eius officiali ad inducendum eundem, ut est moris etc.

Collacio prebende de Yatton.

Item, xvj^to^ die eiusdem mensis et anno supradicto, dictus reuerendus pater in hospicio suo predicto canonicatum in ecclesia sua Cathedrali Wellensi et prebendam de Yatton', per liberam resignacionem Magistri Ricardi Nykke, vltimi possessoris eorundem vacantes, et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantes, Magistro Roberto Middelton', legum doctori, contulit intuitu caritatis, et ipsum canonicum et prebendarium instituit et inuestiuit canonice in eisdem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis. Et recepto ab eodem canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano vel subdecano ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis seu in eorum absencia presidenti capituli et capitulo eiusdem vt est moris etc.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Norton' iuxta Taunton'.

Item, xiiij° die mensis Augusti, Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius in spiritualis generalis apud Welliam, Magistrum Johannem Thwaytes in utroque iure bacallario, ad ecclesiam parochialem de Norton' iuxta Taunton,' Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem Magistri Lodowici Pollard vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per probum virum Johannem Sapcot militem, verum dicte ecclesie iure domine Elizabeth uxoris sue domine Fiztwaren' patronum, eidem vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem in propria sua persona instituit canonice in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum eiusdem ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus etc. Et prestito per eundem Magistrum Johannem Thwaytes canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali ut est moris etc.

Commissio Scribe seu Registrarii causarum correccionum in Consistorio Wellensi.

Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, dilecto in Christo filio Roberto Dikar, clerico, salutem graciam et benedictionem. Vite ac morum honestas aliaque laudabilia probitatis et virtutum merita, super quibus apud nos fidedigno commendaris testimonio, nos inducunt vt te specialibus fauoribus et graciis prosequamur. Hinc est quod nos de tuis fidelitate et circumspeccionis industria plurimum in Domino confidentes, officia actorum Scribe et Registrarii Consistorii nostri Wellensis, necnon Scribe siue Registrarii nostri in correccionum et excessuum negociis, necnon in probacionibus testamentorum quorumcunque subditorum nostrorum vtriusque sexus hominum nostrarum ciuitatum et diocesis, coram nostro commissario generali ac officiali nostro iurisdiccionum nostrarum peculiarium de Cherde, Chewe et Wellyngton', quocunque pro tempore existenti, quomodolibet introducendis, agitandis, vel tractandis; necnon in causis quas in et infra iurisdictiones nostras predictas et [coram] officiali predicto moueri et agitari contigerit, tibi vna cum feodis et emolumentis huiusmodi officiis de consuetudine laudabili hactenus obseruata debitis, consuetis et pertinentibus, tibi conferrimus intuitu caritatis. Et insuper de vberiori gracia nostra tibi concedimus quod huiusmodi officia ad terminum vite tue, dummodo in eisdem fideliter te habueris, per te aut per sufficientem deputatum tuum pro quo respondere volueris, tociens quociens te impediri contingat, valeas exercere, teque dicti nostri consistorii ac in correccionum, excessuum et probacionum testamentorum negociis quorumcunque subditorum nostrorum vtriusque sexus hominum nostrarum ciuitatum et diocesis, coram nostro commissario generali ac officiali nostro iurisdiccionum nostrarum peculiarium predictarum, quocunque pro tempore existenti, ut prefertur, quomodolibet intro-

ducendis, actorum Scribam et Registrarium cum onere acta inactitata ibidem fideliter scribendi ac proposita et exhibita coram officiali seu presidenti eiusdem consistorii necnon coram commissario nostro generali ac officiali iurisdictionum peculiarium huiusmodi fideliter custodiendi, preficimus et deputamus per presentes. In cuius rei robur et testimonium sigillum nostrum de mandato nostro presentibus est appensum. Datum London' xx°. die mensis Junii Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^. nonagesimo tercio, et nostre translacionis anno secundo.

Institucio Capellani Cantarie Sancti Nicholai fundate in ecclesia parochiali de Frome.

Item xviij° die Augusti Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis apud Welliam, Magistrum Thomam Compton' in iure canonico bacallarium, ad cantariam perpetuam fundatam Sancti Nicholai in ecclesia parochiali de Frome Selwode, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem Magistri Henrici Payn', vltimi capellani eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per discretum virum Rogerum Twynyo, armigerum, verum dicte cantarie patronum, dicto vicario generali extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria et capellanum perpetuum, de obseruando ordinaciones, consuetudines et statuta dicte cantarie primitus iuratum, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Curam regimen, etc. Et recepto ab eodem Magistro Thoma canonice obedientie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali ut est moris, etc.

Composicio inter vicarium perpetuum ecclesie parochialis de Sowth Pederton' et parochianos de Chelyngton' etc.

Vniuersis Sancte Matris ecclesie filiis presentes literas inspecturis, visuris vel audituris, Ricardus Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctor, canonicus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis ac reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi in remotis agentis, vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, salutem in Domino et fidem indubiam presentibus adhibere. Ad perpetuam rei memoriam vniuersitatis vestre noticijs deducimus, et deduci volumus per presentes, quod pridem ex parte dilectorum in Christo vniuersorum et singulorum vtriusque sexus hominum villulam siue hamelectam de Chelyngton', infra fines et limites ecclesie parochialis de Southpederton', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, situatam, et ab eadem ecclesia parochiali de Southpederton' dependentem, habitantium, nobis extit repetitum, expositum, et deinde humiliter supplicatum, quod cum loca mansionum sua ab ecclesia sua parochiali de Southpederton' predicta per vnius miliaris spacium et vltra distent, viaque intermedia plerumque vi fluminis aquarumque inundancia et aliis nonnullis discriminibus ipsis reddatur et sit nedum tediosa, sed eciam periculis plena, adeo quod corpora siue cadauera ipsarum personarum infra eandem villulam siue hamelectam de Chelyngton' predicta, cum ab hac luce subtracte fuerint, ad dictam ecclesiam parochialem de Southpederton' predicta et cimiterium eiusdem sepelienda facillime propter paucitatem hominum inhabitantium dictam villulam siue hamelectam de Chelyngton predictam et alios casus diuersos et aduersos, qui frequenter accidunt, minime deportari et adduci valeant; quatenus premissis omnibus et singulis consideratis certam terram siue glebam capellam Sancti Jacobi de Chelyngton' predicta circumiacentem, quam nobilis

vir Egidius Dawbeney miles dominus de Dawbeney, verus eiusdem terre siue glebe dominus proprietarius et possessor, eidem capelle dedit et assignauit in perpetuum, prout per suas literas desuper confectas sigillo suo ad arma sigillatas et munitas plenius liquet, pro cimiterio et sepultura corporum siue cadauerum personarum vtriusque sexus hominum infra villulam siue hamelectam de Chelyngton antedicta decedentium, assignare et deputare, ipsamque terram siue glebam in cimiterium et pro cimiterio constituere, benedicere et dedicare, seu huiusmodi terram siue glebam assignari, deputari ac in cimiterium et pro cimiterio constitui, benedici et dedicari facere, sine iuris alieni et presertim vicarii de Sowthpederton' et parochianorum eiusdem preiudicio, licentiam et facultatem concedere, ceteraque nostro incumbencia in hac parte officio peragere dignaremur. Nos igitur, Ricardus Nykke vicarius in spiritualibus generalis sepedictus, premissis omnibus et singulis consideratis et intellectis, prehabitaque de et super veritate eorundem in forma iuris inquisicione diligenti, vocatis in hac parte de iure vocandis et interesse habentibus, quia per inquisicionem huiusmodi ac alias probaciones legitimas in hac parte habitas et factas comperimus et invenimus omnia et singula premissa fuisse et esse vera racioni et consona, ex causis predictis et aliis nos in hac parte iuste et legitime mouentibus, considerans maxime subscripta nullatenus alicui persone seu aliquibus personis fore preiudicialia, prouiso quod vicarius vicarie perpetue dicte ecclesie parochialis de Sowthpederton' pro tempore existens habeat et percipiat ab inhabitantibus siue commorantibus dictam villulam siue hamelectam de Chelyngton siue in futurum habitaturis siue commoraturis, in et de eorum quolibet cum de hac luce subtracte fuerint vnum denarium, prout antiquitus vicarii ibidem ab inhabitantibus dictam villulam siue hamelectam cum vniuerse carnis viam ingressi fuerint, percipiunt et habuerunt, necnon quod inhabi-

tantes dictam villulam siue hamelectam de Chelyngton' predictam ac in futurum eandem inhabitaturi et commoraturi, de bonis suis eisdem adeo collatis, ad construccionem et reparacionem dicte ecclesie parochialis de Sowthpederton, necnon ad empcionem quorumcunque eidem ecclesie necessariorum iuxta posse suum, cum ceteris parochianis infra villam de Sowthpederton' sepedictam commorantibus et in futurum commoraturis dent et contribuant sicque dare et contribuere sint astricti, dictam terram siue glebam dictam capellam de Chelyngton' sepefatam circumiacentem et contiguam, pro cimiterio et sepultura memoratis auctoritate nostra primitus assignatam deputatam, et constitutam per reuerendum in Christo patrem dominum Thomam Tinensem episcopum iuxta iuris exigenciam de et cum consensu et assensu omnium et singulorum interesse in hac parte habencium benedici et dedicari fecimus; necnon cuicunque capellano idoneo dicte capelle de Chelyngton' per vicarium de Sowthpederton' pro tempore existentem deputando et remouendo, ad celebrandum missas et alia diuina officia in eadem capella, sacramentaque et sacramentalia personis huiusmodi ac ceteris vtriusque sexus personis quibuscunque infra villulam siue hamelectam de Chelyngton' sepedicta habitantibus siue commorantibus, aut in futurum habitaturis seu commoraturis, ministrandum et ministrari faciendum, ipsarumque personarum cum ab hac luce, vt prefertur, subtracte fuerint, corpora siue cadauera in dicto cimiterio sepeliendum, ceteraque omnia et singula in premissis et circa ea necessaria et oportuna, ac de iure requisita faciendum et exercendum, que ad curatum in hac parte possint et debeant quouismodo pertinere, absque iuris preiudicio alieni concessimus prout tenore presencium concedimus legitimam ac plenam et liberam facultatem. In cuius rei testimonium et robur sigillum nostrum presentibus signeto domini Ricardi Caryk, vicarii de Sowthpederton' predicta moderni sigillatis

apposuimus. Datum xij° die mensis Marcii, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo tercio, et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno secundo.

Commenda Magistro Thome Compton' facta ad Cantariam Sancti Nicholai in ecclesia parochiali de Frome.

Ricardus Nykke etc. dilecto nobis in Christo Magistro T. Compton, in iure canonico bacallario, salutem in omnium Saluatore. Ex certis causis veris et legitimis nos ad hoc mouentibus, cantariam perpetuam Sancti Nicholai in ecclesia parochiali de Frome in Selwode, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem Magistri Henrici Payn' vltimi capellani eiusdem vacantem, de consensu assensu et nominacione discreti viri Rogeri Twynyo armigeri patroni eiusdem, tibi auctoritate nobis tradita in commendam damus et assignamus per sex menses et non vlterius a die date presencium duraturam; ac curam regimen et administracionem iuxta fundacionem et ordinacionem illius cantarie tibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum officii nostri presentibus apposuimus. Datum Wellie, xviij°. die mensis Augusti, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^. lxxxxiiij^to^., et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno tercio.

Institucio vicarie ecclesie parochialis de Cherde cum assignacione pensionis.

Ricardus Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctor, Archidiaconus Wellensis ac reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, dilecto nobis in Christo Magistro Johanni Strete, in artibus magistro, salutem in omnium Saluatore. Ad

vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parrochialis de Cherde, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Roberti Hoby, presbiteri, vltimi vicarii eiusdem in manus nostras factam et per nos admissam vacantem, ad quam per probum virum Amisium Poulet militem verum dicte vicarie patronum, racione aduocacionis illius vicarie ipsi hac vice tantum facte, vt plenius apparet, nobis presentatus, existis, te de continuo et personaliter residendo in eadem iuxta vim formam et effectum constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum, necnon de soluendo dicto domino Roberto Hoby huiusmodi vicariam resignanti annuam pensionem viginti marcarum bone et legalis monete Anglie durante vita naturali dicti domini Roberti de fructibus et prouentibus dicte ecclesie ad ij^os^ anni terminos equis porcionibus, videlicet ad festa Pasche et Sancti Michaelis Archangeli, incipiente prima solucione ad festum Pasche proximo futurum, primitus iuratum, admittimus intuitu caritatis; et te perpetuum vicarium canonice instituimus in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis; curam animarum parochianorum eiusdem ecclesie tibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus dicti reuerendi patris ecclesiarumque Cathedralium Bathoniensis et Wellensis dignitate in omnibus semper saluis. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum officii nostri presentibus apposuimus. Datum Wellie, xxiij^o^ die mensis Augusti Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^, nonagesimo iiij^to^, et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno iij^o^.

Scriptum fuit pro ipsius inductione officiali peculiaris iurisdiccionis de Cherde predicta.

Tenor aduocacionis.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presentes litere peruenerint. Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noueritis nos dedisse conces-

sisse et presentibus literis nostris confirmasse dilecto nobis in Christo domino Amisio Poulet militi, aduocacionem, donacionem, presentacionem, collacionem et liberam disposicionem vicarie perpetue ecclesie parochialis de Cherde, nostre collacionis et iurisdiccionis, cum per mortem, cessionem, dimissionem, resignacionem, priuacionem seu alium quemeunque modum eam primo et proximo vacare contigerit, pro illa prima et proxima vacacione duntaxat. Ita quod bene liceat eidem domino Amisio personam idoneam quam voluerit ad dictam vicariam eum proximo ut predicitur vacauerit, nobis seu successoribus nostris presentare seu dictam vicariam conferre et disponere, quousque vna persona idonea ad presentacionem dicti Amisii Poulet ad prefatam vicariam per nos seu successores nostros legitime fuerit admissus, et in eodem eum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis canonice institutus et inductus, ceteraque omnia et singula que in premissis et circa ea necessaria fuerint seu quomodolibet oportuna, petere, exigere, facere et perimplere, que nos quouismodo facere possemus seu debuissemus si presentes litere nostre facte non fuissent, seu non emanassent. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum presentibus apponi fecimus. Datum in suburbiis London' xxj° die mensis Nouembris Anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ nonagesimo iiij^to^ et translacionis nostre anno tercio.

Decretum tripartitum annue pensionis de fructibus et prouentibus vicarie ecclesie parochialis de Cherde assignate predicto domino Roberto Hoby, eandem vicariam resignanti.

Vniuersis Sancte Matris ecclesie filiis ad quos presentes litere peruenerint, et quos infrascripta tangunt seu tangere poterunt quomodolibet in futurum, Ricardus Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctor,

Archidiaconus Wellensis, reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, salutem in Domino et fidem indubiam presentibus adhibere. Ad vniuersitatis vestre noticiam deducimus et deduci volumus per presentes, Quod cum dilectus nobis in Christo dominus Robertus Hoby, vicarius vicarie perpetue ecclesie parochialis de Cherde, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ex certis causis veris iustis et legitimis ipsum et animum suum, ut asseruit, ad hoc mouentibus, et pro parte sua coram nobis allegatis, ac per nos approbatis, quas pro expressis habere volumus, dictam vicariam suam cum omnibus suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis in manus nostras pure, sponte, simpliciter et absolute nuperrime resignauerit, subijciens se in omnibus et per omnia, quantum ad victum et vestitum suos et alia vite sue necessaria quecunque sibi prouidenda ad terminum vite sue, ordinacioni, disposicioni, assignacioni, voluntati et decreto nostris. Quam quidem resignacionem, reseruata nobis potestate prouidendi, disponendi, assignandi et limitandi quandam annuam pensionem eidem domino Roberto Hoby, de fructibus, redditibus, prouentibus et emolumentis ipsius vicarie pro vberiore vite sue sustentacione, quoad uixerit, admisimus, dictamque vicariam de Cherde vacantem vacare decreuimus et declarauimus. Consequenter vero nos Ricardus Nykke vicarius in spiritualibus generalis antedictus, Magistrum Johannem Strete in artibus magistrum ad eandem vicariam sic vacantem, ad nominacionem et presentacionem nobilis viri Amisii Poulet militis, dicte vicarie hac vice patroni, iure aduocacionis sibi per dictum reuerendum patrem alias concesse, admisimus ipsumque vicarium de continuo et personaliter inibi residendo iuxta constituciones legatinas in ea parte editas primitus iuratum, instituimus canonice in et de eadem cum suis iuribus et

pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo. Deinde dictus dominus Robertus coram nobis die date presencium iudicialiter sedentibus personaliter comparens nobis humiliter supplicauit, quatenus in ipsius domini Roberti Hoby releuamen ac vberiorem vite sue sustentacionem sibi et statui suo oportune prouidere, ac pensionem annuam de decimis, oblacionibus, fructibus, redditibus, prouentibus et emolumentis memoratis vicarie quoad uixerit auctoritate nostra ordinaria assignare, limitare et concedere dignaremur. Nos igitur Ricardus Nykke vicarius in spiritualibus prelibatus, vocatis primitus per nos de iure vocandis, ac seruatis per nos in hac parte omnibus et singulis de iure seruandis, debito consideracionis intuitu attendentes onera per ipsum dominum Robertum Hoby circa hospitalitatem et alia pia opera supportata et supportanda, ac quod laudabiliter prefuit in eadem vicaria, dicto domino Roberto Hoby quamdiu vixerit ad instantem peticionem ipsius domini Roberti ac de et cum consensu assensu et uoluntate dicti Amisii Poulet militis nominantis in hac parte requisitis, necnon de et cum consensu et assensu Magistri Johannis Strete ad dictam vicariam nominati et admissi, pensionem annuam viginti marcarum bone et legalis monete Anglie de decimis, oblacionibus, fructibus, redditibus, prouentibus et emolumentis prefate vicarie ad vberiorem predicti domini Roberti Hoby vite sustentacionem, assignauimus, prout tenore presencium assignamus et limitamus, annis singulis quamdiu idem dominus Robertus Hoby egerit in humanis et vixerit, bene et fideliter sibi persoluendarum satisfaciendarum et contentandarum, ac ipsam vicariam pensionariam faciendam ad effectum et finem supra et subscriptum duntaxat; eandemque vicariam ac omnes et singulos illius fructus, redditus et prouentus cum dicta pensione annua xx^{ti}. marcarum durante vita naturali dicti domini Roberti Hoby et dum idem dominus Robertus egerit in humanis, omnino

oneramus pariter et obligamus. Necnon onus solucionis huiusmodi annue pensionis xx^ti marcarum dicte vicarie de Cherde ac sepedicto Magistro Johanni Strete, prefate vicarie vicario moderno et successoribus suis in eadem, ipsius domini Roberti vita naturali durante, ac ipso in humanis paciente et agente, cum expressis consensu vti prefertur assensu et voluntate prefati nobilis viri Amisii Poulet, militis, nominantis predicti et patroni hac vice tantum, et memorati Magistri Johannis Strete vicarii ibidem moderni specialiter in hac parte adhibitis, auctoritate nostra ordinaria imponi decreuimus et imponimus per presentes. Ita videlicet quod Magister Johannes Strete vicarius modernus vicarie predicte et quicumque eius successores ipsius vicarie de Cherde, quamdiu idem dominus Robertus Holy vixerit, onus solucionis huiusmodi annue pensionis xx^ti marcarum agnoscere et subire, ac ipsas xx^ti marcas ad festa Pasche et Michaelis per equales porciones eidem domino Roberto uel ipsius sufficienti procuratori, in noua capella Beate Marie Virginis iuxta claustrum ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, singulis annis vita sua durante fideliter et plenarie persoluere teneantur, et eorum quilibet pro tempore suo sic persoluere teneatur; prima solucione dicte annue pensionis xx^ti marcarum in festo Pasche proximo futuro post datam presencium omnino incipiente. Ad quam quidem solucionem modo quo prefertur bene et fideliter faciendam, dictus Magister Johannes Strete vicarius ibidem modernus, tactis per ipsum sacrosanctis Dei euangeliis coram nobis in presencia dicti domini Roberti corporale prestitit iuramentum et iurauit. Et vt premissa, modo quo prefertur, inuiolabiliter imposterum obseruentur et reddantur cerciora, ordinauimus statuimus et decreuimus prout ordinamus, statuimus atque decernimus, quod quicunque successorum prefati Magistri Johannis Strete in futurum superueniens in eadem vicaria instituendus et intitulandus, quociensciunque quicunque et quomodo-

cunque ipsam vicariam vacare contigerit, durante vita dicti domini Roberti Hoby, tempore institucionis sue coram dicto reuerendo patre aut successoribus suis Bathoniensibus et Wellensibus episcopis seu alio quocunque ipsum vicarium futurum sic instituente, ad Sancta Dei euuangelia per ipsum realiter tacta iuramentum prestet corporale, quod onus solucionis huiusmodi annue pensionis xx^ti^ marcarum modo et forma prescriptis fideliter pro tempore suo, vita supranominati domini Roberti Hoby vt prefertur durante, subibit supportabit et persoluet; quodque hanc ordinacionem nostram dicto domino Roberto Hoby viuente non impugnabit nec contraueniet eidem vllo modo. Vlterius statuentes et decernentes prout statuimus et decernimus per presentes, quod in literis institucionis cuiuslibet futuri vicarii vicarie predicte, dicti domini Roberti Hoby vita naturali durante, de iuramento predicto fiat mencio specialis et expressa, alioquin ipsam instituciōnem seu literas institucionis huiusmodi extunc prout exnunc et exnunc prout extunc nullas et invalidas esse decreuimus et per presentes decernimus ipso facto. Volumus insuper et decernimus quod quilibet vicarius dicte vicarie futurus in eadem vicaria durante vita dicti domini Roberti Hoby instituendus, statim post ipsius institucionem coram dicto reuerendo patre eiusve successoribus seu alio quocunque eundem instituente, antequam in corporalem realem et actualem possessionem eiusdem vicarie inducatur, omnibus et omnimodis appellacionis, querele, excepcionis, supplicacionis, priuilegii, proteccionis seu libertatis, iuris communis aut specialis, canonici, ciuilis aut regii remedio, auxilio et subsidio quibuscunque, et presertim omni iuri dicenti seu dictanti generalem renunciacionem aut aliam quamcunque minus valere, nisi quatenus debite processerit magis specialis, per que dicta nostra ordinacio et contenta, ut prefertur, in eadem posset uel possent quomodolibet impedire, palam publice et expresse in presencia notarii publici et

testium fidedignorum renunciare teneatur, et sic renunciet realiter et cum effectu. Volumus eciam decernimus et diffinimus, quod si prefatus Magister Johannes Strete vicarie sepedicte vicarius modernus aut quisquam in eadem sibi successurus, dictis ordinacioni, decreto, monicionibus et mandatis nostris, huiusmodi parere neglexerit, aut ea pertinaciter contempserit, et maxime si dictam solucionem terminis supradictis seu saltem infra quadraginta dies post aliquem terminorum supradictorum minime perfecerit aut eadem plenarie et integraliter non satisfecerit, quod ex tunc fructus, redditus, decime, oblaciones et prouentus dicte vicarie vicarii moderni aut cuiuslibet ibidem pro tempore existentis mora culpa et contumacia ad merito exigentibus, sint sequestrati prout eos ex causis antedictis quum occurrerint nunc vt ex tunc et tunc vt ex nunc tenore presentium actualiter sequestramus, huiusmodi vero sequestrum nostrum nullatenus relaxantes quousque supradicto domino Roberto de huiusmodi pensione sua sic subtracta seu delata vna cum arreragiis et expensis pretextu non solucionis huiusmodi in ea parte factis debite fuerit et plenissime satisfactum; custodiam vero sequestri nostri huiusmodi officiali iurisdictionis peculiaris de Cherde predicta cuicunque pro tempore existenti, Amisio Poulet militi, Johanni Speke armigero, Roberto Cary generoso, Magistro Johanni Taylour in artibus magistro, vicario ecclesie parochialis de Ilmyster, Johanni Bevyn, Johanni Forde et Johanni Zoper in Domino committendo. Inhibemusque palam publice et expresse ne quis quauis auctoritate seu colore sequestrum nostrum huiusmodi temere violare presumat sub pena iuris, prouiso semper quod de fructibus redditibus et prouentibus vicarie predicte eciam sic sequestratis, eidem laudabiliter in diuinis officiis deseruiatur, ac onera ordinaria et extraordinaria omnia et singula prefate vicarie interim incumbencia, debite ut conuenit supportentur. Prouiso eciam quod si annualis redditus xx. mar-

carum in quibus abbas et conuentus monasterii Beatorum Apostolorum Petri et Pauli de Mochelney, dicte Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, literis suis desuper confectis, et sigillo suo communi sigillatis, obligantur et sunt astricti, sepedicto domino Roberto, durante ipsius vita naturali, fuerit per eosdem abbatem et conuentum seu per suos assignatos terminis et festis superius descriptis bene et fideliter solutus et contentatus eidem domino Roberto aut suo sufficienti procuratori annis singulis, durante ipsius domini Roberti Hoby vita naturali, quod tunc dicta vicaria perpetua ecclesie parochialis de Cherde prelibata, ac dictus magister Johannes Strete dicte vicarie vicarius modernus, et eiusque successores omnes et singuli eiusdem vicarie pro tempore existentes, a solucione dicte annue pensionis pro ea vice tantum omnino exonerentur. In quorum omnium et singulorum fidem et testimonium sigillum officii nostri presentibus literis tripartitis, quarum vna pars remanet penes sepefatum dominum Robertum Hoby, reliqua vero penes sepedictum Magistrum Johannem Strete, et tercia penes Registrarium dicti reuerendi patris Wellie apponi fecimus. Datum Wellie, xxiij^{mo} die Mensis Augusti Anno Domini millesimo cccc^{mo} nonagesimo iiij^{to} et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno tercio.

Concessio custodie parci de Claverton facta Amisio Poulet Militi.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum peruenerit Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus salutem in Domino sempiternam. Sciatis nos pro bono et laudabili seruicio quod dilectus et fidelis Amisius Poulet miles, nobis impendit, dedimus et concessimus ei officium custodie parci nostri de Claverton' in comitatu Somersetie, habendum et occupandum officium predictum prefato Amisio per se vel per deputatum suum

siue deputatos suos, a festo Sancti Michaelis Archangeli vltimo preterito, durante vita ipsius Amisii; percipiendo et leuando annuatim in et pro officio suo predicto exercendo, feoda et vadia dicto officio ab antiquo debita et consueta de exitibus siue proficuis dicti manerii siue dominii de Claverton' prouenientia siue crescentia, per manus receptorum ballinorum, prepositorum, firmariorum siue aliorum occupatorum eiusdem manerii siue dominii de Claverton' predicta, ad eleccionem ipsius Amisii, ad festa Pasche et Sancti Michaelis Archangeli per equales porciones, vna cum omnibus et omnimodis aliis proficuis, libertatibus et commoditatibus ac emolumentis dicto officio pertinentibus siue spectantibus in tam amplis modo et forma, prout aliqua alia persona siue persone dictum officium tempore preterito habuit et occupauit vel habuerunt et occuparunt, et in eodem percepit aut perceperunt. Et si contingat predictum annuum feodum a retro fore in parte vel in toto per vnum mensem post aliquod festum sanctorum predictorum quo vt prefertur solui debeat, extunc bene licebit prefato Amisio et assignatis suis in manerio siue dominio predicto intrare et distringere et districciones sic captas licite asportare, abducere, effugare et penes se retinere, quousque de feodo predicto cum eorum arreragiis, si que a retro fuerint, ei fuerint plenarie satisfactum et persolutum. In cuius rei testimonium huic presenti scripto nostro sigillum nostrum apposuimus. Datum iij° die mensis Aprilis Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo iiij^to^ et anno regni regis Henrici Septimi nono.

Confirmaciones.

Et nos Johannes Cantlowe prior ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis, etc.

Et nos Johannes Gunthorp' decanus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, etc., vt in communi forma.

Presentacio ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Whitechirch' Sarisburiensis diocesis.

Reuerendo in Christo patri domino Johanni Saresburiensi episcopo eiusve vicario in spiritualibus generali, Ricardus eadem gracia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus salutem in Domino et fraterne dileccionis continuum incrementum. Ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Whitechirch' vestre diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Willelmi Dawlys, vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, et ad nostram presentacionem pleno iure spectantem, dilectum nobis in Christo dominum Robertum Borde presbiterum paternitati vestre reuerende presentamus, attente rogantes quatenus prefatum dominum Robertum ad dictam vicariam admittere, ipsumque perpetuum vicarium canonice instituere in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, ceteraque peragere que vestro in hac parte incumbit officio pastorali, dignemini cum fauore. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum presentibus apposuimus. Datum in Hospicio nostro extra Barram Noui Templi London' xxj° die mensis Augusti, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ monagesimo iiij^to^, et nostre translacionis anno tercio.

Concessio xx^ti.^ marcarum per annum pro pensione.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum peruenerit, Willelmus Wykes, abbas monasterii beatorum Apostolorum Petri et Pauli de Mochelney et eiusdem loci conuentus, salutem in Domino. Noueritis nos prefatum abbatem et conuentum dedisse concessisse et hoc presenti scripto nostro confirmasse Roberto Hoby, nuper vicario vicarie perpetue ecclesie parochialis de Cherde, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, quandam annualem redditum xx^ti^ marcarum de et in manerio

nostro de Drayton' cum pertinenciis; habendum et percipiendum predictum annualem redditum xx^ti^ marcarum prefato Roberto ad terminum vite sue soluendum annuatim in capella nona Beate Marie Virginis de Welles ad duos anni terminos, videlicet ad festa Pasche et Sancti Michaelis Archangelis per equales porciones. Et si contingat predictum annualem redditum xx^ti^ marcarum per vnam septimanam post aliquem terminum quo solui debeat a retro fore in parte vel in toto non solutum, quod extunc bene licebit prefato Roberto et assignatis suis in predictum manerium de Drayton' cum pertinenciis intrare et distringere, districciones-que sic captas effugare et asportare et penes se retinere, quousque de predicto annuali redditu simul cum eius expensis et arreragiis, si que fuerint, eidem Roberto plenarie fuerit satisfactum, et persolutum. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum conuentuale huic presenti scripto nostro apposuimus. Datum apud Mochelney in Domo nostra capitulari xxj^o^ die mensis Augusti, anno regni Henrici Septimi nono.

Licencia absentandi ab ecclesia per triennium, etc.

Ricardus Nykke vtrinsque iuris doctor, Archidiaconus Wellensis ac reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, dilecto nobis in Christo domino Johanni Faux' rectori ecclesie parochialis de Compton' Martyn', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, salutem in omnium Saluatore. Vt per triennium a die date confeccionis presencium continue numerandum, te ab ecclesia tua predicta, dummodo in loco honesto seu locis honestis moram trahas, licite valeas absentare; fructusque redditus et prouentus eiusdem ecclesie tue alicui persone

idonee, que vtilitatem eiusdem diligenter procuret, ad firmam dimittere, certis de causis, quas legitimas reputamus, tibi tenore presencium licenciam concedimus specialem. Sic tamen quod ecclesie tue predicte interim in diuinis officiis per capellanum idoneum seu capellanos idoneos et alios ministros facias congrue deseruiri, necnon iura episcopalia et archidiaconalia, ac alia onera eidem ecclesie tue incumbencia debite facias supportari. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum officii nostri presentibus apponi fecimus. Datum xij° die mensis Junii, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo nonagesimo iiij^to et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno tercio.

Licencia ad communicandum de pensione pro beneficio resignando.

Ricardus Nykke etc. dilecto nobis in Christo domino Ricardo Heycrofte, vicario perpetuo ecclesie parochialis de Somerton, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, salutem in omnium Saluatore. Pro parte tua fuit humiliter supplicatum, quod cum tu, iam senio confractus et aduersa corporis valitudine fatigatus, prefatam ecclesiam et curam eiusdem resignare et dimittere affectes, dummodo tibi de vite necessariis ex fructibus dicte ecclesie prout conuenit prouideatur, quatenus tibi cum domino Johanne Preston' presbitero de et super quadam annua pensione congrua et competenti de et ex fructibus et prouentibus dicte ecclesie quoad uixeris persoluenda et nostra auctoritate assignanda, tractandi, communicandi et concludendi licenciam et facultatem concedere et impartiri dignaremur; vnde nos tuis in hac parte supplicacionibus inclinati, licenciam illam et facultatem tibi duximus concedendas, et concedimus per presentes. In cuius rei, etc. Datum xij° die mensis Septembris Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo nonagesimo iiij^to et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno iij°.

Collacio ecclesie parochialis de Chelworth.

Item, xx° die mensis Septembris, et Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, ecclesiam parochialem de Chelworth', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Ricardi Hall, vltimi rectoris eiusdem in manibus suis factam et per ipsum admissam vacantem, et ad collacionem dicti reuerendi patris pleno iure spectantem, domino Thome Weste, presbitero, contulit intuitu caritatis, ipsumque rectorem eiusdem ecclesie auctoritate dicti reuerendi patris sibi in hac parte commissa, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Receptoque ab eodem domino Thoma Weste canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Bathoniensi seu eius officiali, ut est moris.

Collacio prebende de Comba xiij^a^.

Item, xvj° die eiusdem mensis Anno Domini supradicto, dictus reuerendus pater apud Wodstoke, canonicatum in ecclesia sua Cathedrali Wellensi et prebendam de Comba xiij^a^ in eadem, per liberam resignacionem Magistri Roberti Crofte vltimi possessoris eorundem vacantes, et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantes, Magistro Johanni Arundell' decano ecclesie Cathedralis Exoniensis contulit intuitu caritatis, ipsumque canonicum et prebendarium instituit et inuestiuit canonice in et de eisdem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis. Et recepto ab eodem canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione decano ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis seu subdecano, et in eorum absencia presidenti capituli et capitulo eiusdem, vt est moris, etc.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Northstoke.

Item, iiij^to^ die mensis Octobris Anno Domini supradicto, idem vicarius in spiritualibus generalis dominum Thomam Schafton' capellanum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Northstoke, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Thome Pycher vltimi rectoris eiusdem, in manus suas factam et per ipsum [admissam] vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos viros priorem et conuentum ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis veros dicte ecclesie patronos, dicto vicario in spiritualibus generali extit (*sic*) presentatus, admisit et rectorem instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum eiusdem ecclesie sibi in Domino plenius committendo, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Prestitoque deinde ab eodem domino Thoma Schafton' canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Bathoniensi seu eius officiali, vt est moris.

Institucio vicarii de Estpennard. Pensio annua assignata resignanti.

Item, eisdem die et anno supradictis, prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis ad presentacionem venerabilium et religiosorum virorum abbatis et conuentus monasterii Beate Marie Glaston', canonice instituit dominum Willelmum Brigge in vicaria perpetua ecclesie parochialis de Estpennard, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis per liberam resignacionem domini Thome Gunwyn' vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, de continuo, etc., curam animarum etc., iuribus, etc. et prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis assignauit annuam pensionem centum solidorum prefato domino Thome Gunwyn' durante vita sua de fructibus et prouentibus dicte ecclesie per predictum dominum Willelmum Brigge et

successores suos fideliter persoluendorum, etc., ut plenius apparet in decreto remanenti in custodia dicti domini Thome Gunwyn, etc. Scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali ut moris est.

Institucio vicarii do Dunster.

Item, vj^{to} die mensis Octobris, Anno Domini supradicto, idem vicarius in spiritualibus generalis ad presentacionem venerabilium et religiosorum virorum prioris capituli ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis, instituit canonice dominum Thomam Kyngysbury capellanum in vicariam de Dunster per liberam resignacionem domini Ricardi Harrys vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem; de continuo, etc. Curam animarum, etc. Et recepto, etc., scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali ut est moris etc.

Collacio Cantarie ad altare in honore Corporis Christi in Ecclesia Cathedrali Wellensi fundate.

Item, xiij° die mensis Octobris, Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis contulit domino Johanni Teele capellano cantariam perpetuam ad altare in honore Corporis Christi in Ecclesia Cathedrali Wellensi dedicatam fundatam et erectam, per liberam resignacionem domini Thome Crosse vltimi capellani eiusdem vacantem, et ad collacionem dicti reuerendi patris domini Ricardi Dei gracia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi pleno iure spectantem, auctoritate in hac parte sibi commissa capellanum perpetuum de obseruando statuta et consuetudines dicte cantarie iuxta fundacionem et ordinacionem eiusdem ad Sancta Dei Euuangelia iuratum, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, iuribus, etc. Et recepto ab

eodem domino Johanne canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione principali dicti Collegii Sancte Anne in la Montroy, vt est moris, etc.

Concessio decimarum dominicalium de Chewe vicario moderno et successoribus suis, etc.

Vniuersis Sancte Matris ecclesie filiis ad quos presentes litere peruenerint, Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus, salutem in Domino sempiternam. Noueritis nos prefatum Ricardum episcopum concessisse, dimisisse, et ad firmam tradidisse domino Thome eadem permissione Tinensi episcopo vicario perpetuo ecclesie parochialis de Chewe, omnes et omnimodas decimas tam maiores quam minores, siue de exitibus animalium siue aliarum rerum nostrarum successorum nostrorum siue assignatorum nostrorum de solo nostro dominico de Chewe predicta in parrochia eiusdem; habendum et tenendum omnes dictas decimas tam maiores quam minores, siue de exitibus animalium siue aliarum rerum nostrarum, seu successorum nostrorum aut nostrorum assignatorum de predicto dominico nostro prouenientes, prefato Thome vicario et successoribus suis vicariis ibidem a die confectionis presencium usque ad terminum et finem octuaginta annorum post datam presencium plenarie complendorum absque dolo fraude et malicía quibuscunque, reddendo inde annuatim nobis et successoribus nostris quinquaginta solidos bone et legalis monete Anglie ad festum Omnium Sanctorum pro dictis decimis et omnibus aliis seruiciis et demandis. Et si contingat redditum quinquaginta solidorum a retro fore in parte vel in toto post dictum Festum Omnium Sanctorum non solutum si petatur, tunc bene licebit nobis et successoribus nostris et nostris in hac parte assignatis in omnes terras dicte vicarie pertinentes intrare et distringere, districcionesque ibidem inuentas siue captas abducere

asportare et effugare ac penes nos retinere donec de predicto redditu l^a solidorum cum arreragiis et expensis eiusdem, si que fuerint, plenarie fuerit satisfactum et persolutum. Et nos vero predictus Ricardus episcopus et successores nostri omnes et omnimodas supradictas decimas tam maiores quam minores siue de exitibus animalium seu aliarum rerum nostrarum successorum nostrorum aut assignatorum de dicto dominico nostro ut prefertur prouenientes, prefato Thome vicario et successoribus suis vicariis ecclesie de Chewe predicta ad predictum terminum octuaginta annorum contra omnes gentes warantizabimus, acquietabimus, et in forma predicta defendemus per presentes. In cuius rei testimonium vni parti huius scripti penes nos et successores nostros remanenti dictus Thomas vicarius sigillum suum apposuit, alteri vero parti eiusdem scripti indentati penes prefatum Thomam vicarium et successores suos remanenti sigillum episcopatus nostri apponi fecimus. Datum sexto die mensis Septembris, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo nonagesimo iiij^to et anno regni regis Henrici Septimi post conquestum Anglie decimo.

Institucio vicarii ecclesie parochialis de Est Chynnok.

Item xv. die Octobris Anno Domini supradicto, memoratus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis admisit dominum Johannem Leche capellanum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Est Chynnok, per liberam resignacionem domini Johannis Crowche vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, et ad presentacionem prioris et conuentus de Mountagu [spectantem], de continuo, etc., canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus, etc., curam, etc., iuribus, etc., et recepto canonice obediencie iuramento ab eodem, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali, ut est moris.

Concessio officii Auditoris facta Thome Hobson'.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presens scriptum peruenerit, Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus salutem in domino sempiternam. Sciatis nos de fidelitate circumspectione et industria dilecti nobis in Christo Thome Hobson' confidentes, fecisse, ordinasse, et per presentes constituisse ipsum Thomam auditorem ad omnia et omnimoda receptorum, balliuorum, prepositorum, firmariorum, collectorum, bedellorum, et aliorum ministrorum quorumcunque omnium et singulorum dominiorum, maneriorum, terrarum, et tenementorum ac aliarum possessionum quarumcunque computabilium existencium episcopatui Bathoniensi et Wellensi seu ecclesiis Bathoniensi siue Wellensi, vt in iure episcopatus predicti pertinentium, siue spectantium; ac eundem Thomam auditorem omnium et singulorum dominiorum, maneriorum, terrarum et tenementorum predictorum in comitatibus Somers[etie], Glouc[estrie], South[antonie] et Midd[lesexie] aut alibi infra regnum Anglie audiendum et determinandum, assignauimus constituimus et ordinauimus per presentes, habendum occupandum et gaudendum prefato Thome officium predictum per se vel per sufficientem deputatum suum siue sufficientes deputatos suos pro termino vite sue. Concessimus eciam eidem Thome pro termino vite sue pro occupacione et exercicio officii predicti vadia et feoda dicto officio ab antiquo debita pertinencia siue spectancia, percipienda sibi siue deputato aut assignatis suis de et in maneriis siue dominiis de Cherde, Kyngesbury et Wellyngton in dicto comitatu Somersetie per manus receptorum, balliuorum, prepositorum, firmariorum aut aliorum occupatorum eorundem dominiorum siue maneriorum pro tempore existencium, ad festa Pasche et Sancti Michaelis Archangeli annuatim equis porcionibus persoluenda, vna cum omnibus aliis proficuis, libertatibus, commoditatibus, auan-

tagiis, regardis et emolumentis dicto officio debitis et consuetis, in tam amplis modo et forma prout aliquis alius siue aliqui alii ante hec tempora habuit aut occupauit, seu habuerunt aut occupauerunt. Et si contingat predicta vadia et feoda a retro fore in parte vel in toto per vnum mensem post aliquod festum sanctorum predictorum, quo ut prefertur solui debeat, non soluta, tunc bene licebit prefato Thome et assignatis siue deputatis suis in dominiis siue maneriis de Cherde, Kyngesbury et Wellyngton' predictis, et in qualibet inde parcella intrare et distringere, districtionesque sic captas licite asportare abducere et effugare, ac penes se retinere, quousque de predictis vadiis et feodis et qualibet inde parcella cum eorum arreragiis si que a retro fuerint, plenarie fuerit satisfactus contentus et persolutus. Dantes et concedentes prefato Thome Hobson plenam potestatem et auctoritatem ad audiendum et determinandum omnia et singula huiusmodi compota predictorum receptorum, balliuorum, prepositorum, bedellorum, firmariorum seu aliorum occupatorum predictorum, sic ad omnia et singula alia faciendum exequendum et perimplendum in omnibus et per omnia secundum et prout ordo compoti in huiusmodi casu exigit et requirit. Damus autem vniuersis et singulis receptoribus, ballinis, prepositis, firmariis, bedellis et omnibus aliis officiariis nostris quorum interest, firmiter in mandatis quod prefato Thome aut deputato suo, in occupacione et execucione officii sui predicti obedientes sint, intendentes, auxiliantes et assistentes in omnibus prout decet. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum episcopatus nostri presentibus apponi fecimus. Datum duodecimo die mensis Januarii Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo tercio, et anno regni regis Henrici Septimi post conquestum Anglie nono.

Dispensacio per episcopum facta Rectori de Capland ad retinendum eandem ecclesiam cum ij^abus.^ aliis ecclesiis quas dispensacione apostolica obtinuit.

Ricardus Nykke vtriusque iuris doctor, Archidiaconus Wellensis, reuerendi in Christo patris, etc., dilecto nobis in Christo Magistro Johanni Strete arcium Magistro, rectori ecclesie parochialis de Capland, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, salutem in omnium Saluatore et fidem indubiam presentibus adhibere. Tenore presencium litterarum nostrarum attestamur et fidem facimus per easdem, quod tua ecclesia parochialis de Capland predicta, in qua pronunc intitulatus legitime existis, est vnum de minimis beneficiis dicte Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, tam in domibus rectorie ibidem quam parrochianis et populo eiusdem, ac in suis redditibus, fructibus, prouentibus et obuencionibus pauper, tenuis et exilis hiis diebus, prout a vicinarum parrochiarum parochianis et inhabitantibus credibiliter informamur et sumus instructi. Et quia curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie alias tibi commisimus, et huiusmodi curam propter caristiam et defectum parochianorum in actu ibidem exercere non valeas, licet in habitu curam predictam habeas tibi ut premittitur commissam, tecum vt eandem ecclesiam de Capland predicta cum ecclesia parrochiali de Henton Sancti Georgii ac vicaria ecclesie parochialis de Cherde, quas dispensacione apostolica pronunc obtines, licite tenere valeas, ita quod minime in eadem racione cure eiusdem residere tenearis, misericorditer dispensamus, et quatenus in nobis est licenciam damus et concedimus per presentes, iuribus et consuetudinibus episcopalibus dicti reuerendi patris ecclesiarumque Cathedralium Bathoniensis et Wellensis dignitate in omnibus semper saluis. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum officii nostri presentibus apposuimus. Datum Wellie, xxv° die mensis Augusti, Anno Domini

millesimo cccc^mo nonagesimo iiij^to et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno tercio.

Decretum et ordinacio facta super inuencione capellani in capellis de Palton' et Feryngd[on] infra parochiam de Chewton'.

Vniuersis Sancte Matris ecclesie filiis presentes literas inspecturis seu audituris, Ricardus Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctor, Archidiaconus Wellensis ac reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, salutem in Auctore salutis ac fidem indubiam presentibus adhibere. Vniuersitatis vestre noticiis deducimus ac deduci volumus per presentes, quod cum pridem per aliqua tempora inter Thomam Goldwege presbiterum, vicarium perpetuum ecclesie parochialis de Chewton' Subtus Menydepe, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ex parte vna, ac incolas villularum siue hamelectarum de Palton' et Feryngdon' infra fines et limites parochie dicte ecclesie parochialis de Chewton' situatarum et existentium ex parte altera, causa et occasione inuencionis et exhibicionis duorum capellanorum in capellis earundem villularum siue hamelectarum per dictum vicarium, vti per ipsos incolas siue inhabitantes pretenditur, subtractorum, exorta fuerit materia questionis et differencie; expositum fuit nobis per dictum Thomam Goldwege, vicarium suprascriptum, et alios quam plures viros fidedignos, meliorem noticiam veritatis in ea parte veresimiliter obtinentes, et eciam per inquisicionem debitam et canonicam in ea parte factam nobis liquebat et liquet, quod fructus, redditus et prouentus ipsarum capellarum ad dictum vicarium et vicariam suam predictam pertinentes et pertinere debentes, fuerunt et sunt adeo

tenues et exiles quod ad inuencionem et exhibicionem congruam et decentem vnius solius capellani in dictis capellis diuina celebraturi et in eisdem curam gesturi minime sufficiunt hiis diebus, cum summam octo marcarum monete Anglicaue iuxta communem estimacionem non excedunt; vnde nos, Ricardus Nykke vicarius generalis antedictus, attendentes et considerantes ecclesiam parochialem et matricem de Chewton' predicta ac vicarium eiusdem cum nonnullis capellis ab eadem dependentibus ac pensione annua quinque marcarum seruicio Beate Marie in Ecclesia Cathedrali Sancti Andree Wellensi quotidie honorifice celebrato et obseruato, applicatarum et annuatim fideliter solutarum et soluendarum, ceterisque oneribus sibi et vicarie sue huiusmodi incumbentibus multipliciter onerari; nolentes eandem ecclesiam parochialem et matricem suis capellis subiecta esse, aut cum eisdem capellis indebite onerari, sicuti nec deberet de iure aut esse, aut vicario eiusdem qui magnam et largam curam per se et suos gerit ibidem, plus debito preiudicari seu eundem indebite grauari aut onerari; et ne eciam eadem ecclesia parochialis aut vicaria eiusdem fructuum diminucionem aut domorum vicarie huiusmodi dilapidacionem seu aliqua alia, per nimiam et inordinatam emunccionem capellarum predictarum sibi subiectarum paciatur incommoda, aut eidem ecclesie parochiali et matrici seu vicarie eiusdem alia inconueniencia occasione premissorum inferantur seu inferri poterint quomodolibet in futurum quod absit, vocatis primitus et legittime preminitis per nos et autoritate nostra prefato vicario ac maiore et saniore parte incolarum dictarum capellarum, ac coram nobis in capella Beate Marie Virginis iuxta claustrum ecclesie Cathedralis Sancti Andree Wellensis predicte, die Mercurii proximo ante festum Sancti Laurencii, videlicet sexto die mensis Augusti Anno Domini millesimo cccc^{mo} nonagesimo iiij^{to} hora consueta ad iura reddenda pro tribunali iudicialiter sedentibus, com-

parentibus personaliter, easdem capellas de Palton' et Feryngdon' que adeo contigue adiacent nullo inter easdem imminente aquarum seu alterius rei periculo, quin per vnum capellanum possint commode in diuinis deseruiri, per vnum capellanum idoneum, de fructibus redditibus et prouentibus ipsarum capellarum dumtaxat prefato vicario et vicarie sue predicte qualitercumque pertinentibus et prouenientibus, de assensu et consensu et expressis eiusdem vicarii decreuimus et ordinauimus ex causis premissis et aliis nos iuste in hac parte mouentibus, de cetero in diuinis deseruiri, nisi ex prouisione dictorum incolarum sumptibus suis propriis et expensis pro asiamento suo voluerint aliter prouidere. Absque tamen aliquo preiudicio prefate matricis ecclesie aut vicarie seu vicarii eiusdem imposterum quoquo modo faciendo, prout hiis scriptis decernimus et ordinamus autoritate et vigore officii nostri memorati, ipsis incolis vtriusque dictarum capellarum tunc presentibus nostraque decretum et ordinacionem huiusmodi audientibus et nichil omnino contradicentibus, allegantibus, proponentibus aut in ea parte ostendentibus sed omnino tacentibus. Volumus eciam et per presentes decernimus et ordinamus quod capellanus quicumque pro tempore in dictis capellis celebraturus diebus Dominicis et festiuis et aliis certis diebus prout conuenit, vna vice in vna capella et alia vice in altera capella alternis vicibus diuina vt premittitur celebret seu celebrari faciat. In quorum omnium et singulorum fidem atque testimonium has literas nostras per notarium publicum subscriptum, curie consistorii episcopalis Wellensis actorum et nostrum in hac parte scribam subscribi, nostrique sigilli quo in huiusmodi vicariatus officio fungimur, appensione communiri fecimus. Acta sunt hec omnia et singula prout suprascribuntur et recitantur sub Anno Domini ac sexta die mensis Augusti, et capella Beate Marie Virginis antedictis, Indictione xij^{ma}, pontificatus sanctissimi in Christo patris et domini nostri

domini Alexandri diuina prouidencia Pape sexti anno secundo, et translacionis suprascripti reuerendi patris Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi anno tercio.

Subscriptio Notarii.

Et ego Robertus Dykar, clericus, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, publicus autoritate apostolica notarius, prefateque curie consistorii episcopalis Wellensis actorum, ac dicti Magistri Ricardi Nykke vicarii in spiritualibus generalis in suis decreto et ordinacione predictis scriba per eum assumptus, premissis omnibus et singulis, dum sic vt premittitur sub Anno Domini, indiccione, pontificatu, mense die et loco predictis, coram prefato Magistro Ricardo Nykke et per eum agebantur et fiebant, presens personaliter interfui, eaque omnia et singula sic fieri vidi et audiui. Ideo has literas de mandato ipsius Magistri Ricardi Nykke vicarii in spiritualibus generalis prelibati exinde confeci, meque aliunde prepedito per alium scribi feci, publicaui et in hanc publicam formam redegi, signoque et nomine meis solitis et consuetis vna cum appensione sigilli dicti Magistri Ricardi Nykke, vicarii in spiritualibus generalis memorati signaui, manuque propria me hic subscripsi rogatus et requisitus in fidem et testimonium omnium et singulorum premissorum.

Collacio camere sexte clausi vicariorum.

Item xxvij° die mensis Octobris Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus vicarius in spiritualibus generalis auctoritate sibi commissa contulit domino Johanni Browghyng, vicario ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, cameram sextam ex parte occidentali clausi vicariorum ibidem vacantem et ad collacionem dicti reuerendi patris spectantem, sub modis formis et condicionibus, etc., ut supra.

Permutacio prebende de Cudworth cum ecclesia parochiali de Axbrigge.

Decimo octauo die mensis Octobris Anno Domini supradicto, idem reuerendus pater in quodam negocio permutacionis facte inter magistrum Thomam Raynys arcium magistrum, presbiterum, canonicum ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis et prebendarium prebende de Cudworth in eadem, et venerabilem patrem dominum Thomam Tinensem episcopum rectorem ecclesie parochialis Sancti Johannis Baptiste de Axbrigge, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, legitime procedens, audiuit examinauit et plenarie discussit causas et negocium permutacionis huiusmodi, ipsisque causis veris et legitimis inuentis, approbauit easdem, dictamque permutacionem auctorizauit, necnon resignacionibus dictorum Magistri Thome et domini Thome Tinensis episcopi de beneficiis suis antedictis hincinde factis receptis et admissis, statim dominus contulit prefato venerabili patri domino Tinensi episcopo canonicatum in ecclesia Cathedrali Wellensi et prebendam de Cudworth' in eadem ex causa permutacionis antedicte, ipsumque canonicum eiusdem ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis et prebendarium prebende predicte instituit et inuestiuit canonice in et de eisdem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis. Et recepto ab eodem domino Thoma Tinensi episcopo canonice obediencie iuramento, mandatum fuit decano vel subdecano ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis et in eorum absencia presidenti capituli et capitulo eiusdem ecclesie, ut moris est, ad inducendum eundem. Et incontinenti prefatus reuerendus pater prefatum Magistrum Thomam Rayneys ad ecclesiam parochialem Sancti Johannis Baptiste de Axbrigge vacantem et ad suam collacionem pleno iure spectantem, ex causa permutacionis huiusmodi admisit et ipsum rectorem in persona domini Willelmi Corbet presbiteri procuratoris sui sufficienter in hac parte constituti, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis

vniuersis. Et recepto ab eodem procuratore nomine domini sui canonice obediencie iuramento, mandatum fuit Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali pro ipsius induccione, ut moris est, etc.

Inquisicio facta de iure patronatus ecclesie parochialis de Sowth Cadbury.

Item, vltimo die mensis Octobris, Anno Domini supradicto, Magister Thomas Goldwege vicarius perpetuus ecclesie parochialis de Chewton', in capella Beate Marie Virginis iuxta claustrum ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ad effectum subscriptum iudicialiter sedens, inquisicionem debitam et canonicam fecit de iure patronatus ecclesie parochialis de Sowth Cadbury, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per inquisitores idoneos, videlicet sex rectores et vicarios et alios sex viros fidedignos, eidem ecclesie vicinos, noticiam iuris patronatus ipsius ecclesie et aliorum articulorum in huiusmodi negocio haberi solitorum veresimiliter obtinentes, in forma iuris iuratos et examinatos, facta primitus monicione legitima in eadem ecclesia parochiali de Sowth Cadbury pro omnibus et singulis ius aliquod aut interesse in ea parte habentibus seu habere pretendentibus. Qui dicunt quod dominus Edwardus Hastynges miles, dominus de Hastynges, est verus patronus ecclesie parochialis de Sowth Cadbury, iure Marie uxoris sue. Item dicunt quod probus vir Laurencius Raynesforde miles vltimo presentauit dominum Ricardum Osborn' ad eandem iure Elizabeth Hungerford uxoris sue. Item dicunt quod ipsa ecclesia vacauit et vacare incepit xx° die mensis Maii Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo iiij^to^. Insuper dicunt quod presentatus ad eandem non habet plura beneficia. Insuper dicunt quod non est aliqua simoniaca paccio inter presentantem et presentatum. Insuper dicunt quod presentatus ad eandem est sacerdos. De ceteris articulis examinati

inquisitores huiusmodi iurati dicunt quod nihil obstat presentanti aut presentato antedictis, etc.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie de Sowth Cadbury.

Eodem vltimo die dicti mensis Octobris, Anno Domini supradicto, Magister Johannes Vowel legum doctor canonicus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, venerabilis viri Magistri Ricardi Nykke vtriusque iuris doctoris, Archidiaconi Wellensis reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarii in spiritualibus generalis, commissarius ac vices gerens, dominum Thomam Syde presbiterum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Sowth Cadbury, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis per mortem domini Ricardi Osborn' vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per nobilem virum Edwardum Hastynges militem, dominum de Hastynges, verum dicte ecclesie prout per inquisicionem de iure patronatus eiusdem ecclesie captam manifeste liquet pronunc patronum, dicto commissario extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria, ac rectorem instituit canonice in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertineneiis vniuersis ; curam animarum etc., iuribus, etc. Et prestito per eundem dominum Thomam Syde canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali, ut est moris, etc.

Institucio vicarii ecclesie parochialis de Kulneton'.

Item, xiij° die Nouembris Anno Domini supradicto, Magister Johannes Vowell legum doctor, canonicus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, commissarius dicti vicarii generalis ac vices gerens, dominum Walterum Long presbiterum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Kulneton', Bathoniensis et Wellensis dio-

cesis, per liberam resignacionem domini Willelmi Pers vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos viros priorem et conuentum siue capitulum ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis veros dicte vicarie patronos dicto commissario extitit presentatus, admisit in persona sua propria. Ac vicarium perpetuum de continuo et personaliter inibi residendo iuxta formam onstitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum iuratum, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum eiusdem ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo; iuribus, etc. Et prestito per eundem dominum Walterum Long canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali ut moris est, etc.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Crawcombe.

Item, xix° die mensis Nouembris, Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus Magister Johannes Vowell legum doctor, Thomam Hall scolarem ad ecclesiam parochialem de Crawcombe, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem Magistri Johannis Roche vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos mulieres priorissam et conuentum de Stodeley, Lincolniensis diocesis, veros dicte ecclesie patronos dicto commissario extitit presentatus, admisit in persona Magistri Johannis Strete procuratoris sui sufficienter et legitime in hac parte constituti, canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum, etc., iuribus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem procuratore nomine domini sui canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton' seu eius officiali vt est moris.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Lamyate.

Item, x. die mensis Nouembris Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus reuerendus pater in hospicio suo extra Barras Noui Templi London' dominum Johannem Williamson, capellanum, ad ecclesiam parochialem de Lamyate, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem Magistri Rogeri Woode, vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per circumspectos viros Rogerum Crosties, armigerum, Robertum Shirbourne clericum, et Thomam Chanceler, ciuitatis Wellensis, veros dicte ecclesie racione donacionis siue concessionis iuris patronatus eiusdem ecclesie eis a religiosis mulieribus Abbatissa et Conuentu Monasterii Beate Marie Virginis et Sancti Johannis Baptiste de Goodstowe ipsis facta, hac vice patronos, dicto reuerendo patri extitit presentatus, admisit et ipsum rectorem canonice instituit in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum, etc., iuribus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem domino Johanne Williamson canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius inducecione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali ut est moris.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Rowbarowe.

Item, xxiiij^{ti} die mensis Nouembris Anno Domini supradicto, idem vicarius in spiritualibus generalis dominum Willelmum Eliot, capellanum, admisit ad ecclesiam parochialem de Rowbarowgh, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, vacantem per mortem domini Thome Nevyll vltimi rectoris eiusdem, et ad presentacionem religiosorum virorum abbatis et conuentus monasterii Sancti Augustini iuxta Bristolliam, et rectorem canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, curam, etc., iuribus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem domino Willelmo Eliot canonice obediencie

iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali vt est moris.

Collacio duarum camerarum in Clauso Vicariorum Wellie.

Item, xxvj^to^ die mensis Nouembris Anno Domini supradicto, vicarius in spiritualibus generalis apud Welliam concessit domino Johanni Towker, vicario chorali ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, cameram xviij^am^ ex parte occidentali clausi vicariorum, ac Johanni Sampson' cameram decimam terciam ex occidentali parte eiusdem clausi, et ipsas cameras eisdem Johanni et Johanni auctoritate sibi in ea parte commissa, contulit possidendas per eosdem iuxta statuta et ordinaciones recolende memorie domini Radulphi de Salopia quondam Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi superinde editas, quamdiu eiusdem ecclesie vicarii fuerint bone fame et conuersacionis honeste, etc., ut in forma consueta.

Institucio rectoris ecclesie parochialis de Radyngton'.

Item, xxix° die eiusdem mensis et Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus Magister Johannes Vowell commissarius dominum Thomam Harry capellanum ad ecclesiam parochialem de Radyngton' Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per mortem domini Thome Greusy vltimi rectoris eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per nobilem virum Jacobum Awdeley dominum de Awdeley, verum dicte ecclesie patronum, racione aduocacionis illius per probum virum Willelmum Say, militem, ipsi hac vice tantum facte, vt plenius apparet, eidem commissario extitit presentatus, admisit et rectorem canonice instituit in eadem cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis; curam animarum parochianorum prefate ecclesie sibi in Domino plenarie committentes, iuribus et consuetudinibus, etc. Et

prestito per eundem dominum Thomam Harry canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Taunton seu eius officiali, vt est moris.

Carta aduocacionis ecclesie parochialis de Radyngton.

Omnibus Christi fidelibus ad quos presentes litere peruenerint, Willelmus Say, miles, verus patronus ecclesie parochialis de Radyngton in comitatu Somersetie, salutem in Domino. Noueritis me prefatum Willelmum Say, dedisse, concessisse et hoc presenti scripto meo confirmasse venerabili domino Jacobo Awdeley militi, domino de Awdeley, aduocacionem, donacionem, collacionem, presentacionem, et liberam disposicionem ecclesie parochialis de Radyngton' supradicta; habendum aduocacionem, donacionem, collacionem, presentacionem et liberam disposicionem ecclesie supradicte prefato Jacobo domino de Awdeley, executoribus et assignatis suis, pro prima et proxima vacacione eiusdem tantum. Ita quod bene licebit eidem Jacobo domino de Awdeley executoribus et assignatis suis auctoritate presencium, cum ecclesia predicta per mortem, privacionem, cessionem, dimissionem, permutacionem, resignacionem, seu alio modo quocumque primo seu proximo vacauerit, seu vacare contigerit, idoneam personam ad eandem ecclesiam loci illius ordinario nominare et literatorie presentare. Ac omnia et singula que circa premissa necessaria fuerint seu quomodolibet oportuna, exigere, perficere et perimplere, adeo plene libere et integre, prout ego facerem si presens concessio mea eidem Jacobo domino de Awdeley inde facta minime extitisset. Ita tamen quod aduocacio, donacio, collacio, presentacio et libera disposicio ecclesie predicte quando vacauerit, post vnam donacionem sic per prefatum Jacobum dominum de Awdeley executores siue assignatos suos inde fiendam, ad me et heredes meos vt in

pristino statu meo integre reuertatur. In cuius rei testimonium huic presenti scripto meo sigillum meum apposui. Datum sexto die mensis Julii anno regni Regis Henrici Septimi post Conquestum Anglie octauo.

Institucio vicarii ecclesie parochialis de Somerton'.

Item, tercio die mensis Decembris Anno Domini supradicto, prefatus Magister Johannes Vowell commissarius, etc., dominum Johannem Preston' presbiterum ad vicariam perpetuam ecclesie parochialis de Somerton', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis per mortem domini Ricardi Heycroft vltimi vicarii eiusdem vacantem, ad quam per venerabiles et religiosos viros Abbatem et Conuentum Monasterii de Mochelney eiusdem diocesis, veros eiusdem vicarie patronos, eidem commissario extitit presentatus, admisit et vicarium perpetuum de continuo et personaliter residendo in eadem iuxta formam constitucionum legatinarum in ea parte editarum iuratum, canonice instituit in eadem, cum suis iuribus et pertinenciis vniuersis, curam animarum parochianorum ipsius ecclesie sibi in Domino committendo, iuribus, etc. Et recepto ab eodem domino Johanne Preston' canonice obediencie iuramento, scriptum fuit pro ipsius induccione Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali, ut est moris.

Ordines generales celebrati in capella Beate Marie Virginis, iuxta Claustrum Ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis per reuerendum patrem dominum Thomam Tinensem episcopum, vice et auctoritate reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi, Dei gracia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, die Sabbati iiij^{or} temporum videlicet, xvj^{o} die mensis Junii Anno Domini millesimo cccc^{mo} nonagesimo secundo, et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno primo.

ACOLITI.

Thomas Dany, Landauensis diocesis.
Stephanus Stowell, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.
Willelmus Luxton', Exoniensis diocesis.
Thomas Lanvrege, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

SUBDIACONI.

Stephanus Langston', Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum domus prioratus de Launceston', eiusdem diocesis.

Dominus Thomas Key, Herfordensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum domus Monasterii de Wygmore.

Johannes Maior, Exoniensis diocesis, vicarius choralis ecclesie Cathedralis Sancti Petri Exoniensis ad titulum stalli sui in eadem.

Thomas Wyther de Boltysborowe, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus de Staffardale ordinis Sancti Augustini eiusdem diocesis.

DIACONI.

Johannes Zerward de Taunton, ad titulum prioratus de Taunton'.

Dominus Johannes Carter, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum prioratus de Frythelestoke eiusdem diocesis.

Dominus Johannes Varyat, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum prioratus de Frythelestoke eiusdem diocesis.

Dominus Christoforus Palle, Sarisburiensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum Abbatis et Conuentus de Newton' eiusdem diocesis.

Dominus Thomas Belloye, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum domus siue prioratus de Plymton' eiusdem diocesis.

Dominus Thomas Harry, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum domus prioratus de Bodman eiusdem diocesis.

Dominus Rogerus Varthyng, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum prioratus Sancti Germani eiusdem diocesis.

PRESBITERI.

Dominus Johannes Browghyng, vicarius choralis ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis ad titulum stalli sui in eadem.

Dominus Thomas Nicholas, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum domus prioratus de Bodman.

Dominus Humfridus Dikar, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum domus Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie.

Dominus Dauid ap Philipe ap Thomas, Landauensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum Monasterii Beate Marie.

Dominus Willelmus Nasshyng, Bathoniensis et Wellensis

diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Dunkyswel ordinis Cisterciensis, Exoniensis diocesis.

Dominus Thomas Key, Herfordensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus ad titulum domus Monasterii de Wygmore ordinis Ci[s]terciensis eiusdem diocesis.

Dominus Willelmus Drewe, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum Monasterii Sancti Nectani de Hertlond eiusdem diocesis.

Dominus Willelmus Penrose, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus ad titulum Monasterii Sancti Nectani.

Dominus Willelmus Albon' rector ecclesie parochialis de Chelworth', Eboracensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus.

Dominus Johannes West, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum domus Sancti Nicholai eiusdem diocesis.

Dominus Johannes Feyrey, canonicus regularis de Worspryng, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Dompnus Edmundus Recliff de Farley, Eboracensis diocesis

Dompnus Ludwicus de eodem.

Dompnus Johannes Michelson' de Wytnay, Canturiensis (*sic*) ordinis.

Henricus Josep, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum prepositi et Collegii de Glasseney eiusdem diocesis.

Ordines generales celebrati in ecclesia Conuentuali Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Welle per reuerendum patrem dominum Thomam Tinensem episcopum vice et auctoritate reuerendi in Christo Patris et domini domini Ricardi Dei gracia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, die Sabbati iiij^{or} temporum, videlicet, xxij^{do} die mensis Septembris, Anno Domini millesimo quadringentesimo nonagesimo secundo et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno primo.

Accoliti.

Henricus Spicer, Bangorensis diocesis.

Rogerus Richard, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Ricardus Beram, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Ricardus Vowell, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Diaconi.

Stephanus Langston', Exoniensis diocesis, per literas dimissorias sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum prioris et conuentus de Launston eiusdem diocesis.

Thomas Key, Herfordensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum Abbatis et Conuentus de Wygmore dicte Herfordensis diocesis.

Henricus Durgyn' Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum prioris et Conuentus de Plymton' eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Howell, canonicus regularis ordinis Sancti Augustini Bristollie.

Nicholaus Say, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum domus Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bathonie, eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Gowle, Saresburiensis diocesis per literas sui dioces-

ani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum Abbatis et Conuentus de Abbatisburye, eiusdem diocesis.

Galfridus Gesse, Exoniensis diocesis per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum prioratus et Conuentus de Taunton'.

PRESBITERI.

Thomas Harry, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum prioris et Conuentus de Bodman eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Wey, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis ad titulum prioris et Conuentus prioratus Montis Acuti eiusdem, etc.

Thomas Belloy, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum prioris et Conuentus prioratus de Plymton' eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Wilmot, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis ad titulum prioris et Conuentus Montis Acuti eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Carpenter, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum prioris et Conuentus de Frytherestoke, eiusdem diocesis.

Frater Henricus de Wesalia, ordinis Fratrum Minorum [Exoniensis diocesis.]*

Willelmus Hamond, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum Monasterii Sancte Fredeswide, Oxonie.

Thomas Colmore, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum prioris et Conuentus Beate Marie Magne Barnastopoln' eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Yong, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum Monasterii de Abbatisbury, eiusdem diocesis.

* These two words are apparently struck out.

Frater Ricardus Mathee, ordinis Fratrum Minorum de Bruggewater.

Ricardus Grabham, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum domus Magistri et Fratrum Wellie.

Hugo Vowlys, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, vicarius choralis Ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ad titulum stalli sui in eadem.

Johannes Yarford, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus de Taunton'.

Stephanus Rouell, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum prioris et conuentus prioratus de Launceston' eiusdem diocesis.

Ordines generales celebrati in ecclesia Conuentuali Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie per venerabilem in Christo patrem dominum Thomam Tinensem episcopum vice et auctoritate reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi Dei gratia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, die Sabbati iiij^or^ temporum videlicet secundo die mensis Marcii Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo secundo et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno primo.

Accoliti.

Thomas Hamant de Hertland, Exoniensis diocesis, canonicus regularis.

Willelmus Burnard, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus.

Johannes Wyse, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus.

Johannes Hadkyns, Wigorniensis diocesis.

Johannes Garthen', Wigorniensis diocesis.

Willelmus Lowyng, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus.

Philippus Nycoll, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sufficienter dimissus.

Robertus Philipp', Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sufficienter dimissus.

Thomas Kitowe, Exoniensis diocesis, sufficienter dimissus.

Ricardus Upton, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sufficienter dimissus.

Johannes Woodde, Eboracensis diocesis sufficienter dimissus.

Thomas Won', Exoniensis diocesis.

Rollandus Philippys, Arcium Magister, Vigorniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus.

Thomas Trebarwyth, Exoniensis diocesis.

Johannes Morton', eiusdem diocesis.

Adam Lewys, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Philipp' Nycoll, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus.

Matheus Bolter, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Johannes Giles, Willelmus Bradford, canonici Monasterii Sancti Augustini, Bristollie.

Radulphus Gray, canonicus regularis de Staverdale.

SUBDIACONI.

Henricus Spicer, Bangoriensis diocesis, ad titulum domus Monasterii Sancti Jacobi Apostoli de Staverden', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Thomas Smyth, Wigorniensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Malmesbury, Saresburiensis diocesis.

Thomas Colman', Exoniensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus Bodminie, eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Townyng, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioris et Conuentus de Bruton' eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Symon, Exoniensis diocesis, ad titulum domus siue prioratus de Tywardreth.

Thomas Blakborn', Wigorniensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus Sancte Fredeswyde, Oxonie.

Johannes Wykam', Wigorniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Monasterii Beate Marie de Keynesham.

Willelmus Luxton, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum domus siue prioratus de Barm'.

Hugo Jhonys, Bangoriensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Monasterii de Bradesey.

Walterus Garret, Wigorniensis diocesis, ad titulum domus siue hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie.

Henricus Bray, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum domus siue prioratus Launceston', eiusdem diocesis.

Willelmus Tanner, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Monasterii de Newham, Exoniensis diocesis.

Nicholaus Garland, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Dunkeswyll, Exoniensis diocesis.

Johannes Asshwell', Londoniensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Muchelney, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Hugo Vesy, Dunelmensis diocesis, vicarius choralis ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ad titulum stalli sui.

Simon Everton', Wigorniensis diocesis, vicarius choralis, etc., ut supra.

Diaconi.

Johannes Pewe, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioris et conuentus hospitalis sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie.

Thomas Whether, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioris et conuentus de Staverdale.

Thomas Strange, Wigorniensis diocesis, ad titulum prioris domus siue hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Robertus Constabyll, Exoniensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Stavystoke (*sic*), eiusdem, etc.

Rogerus Richard, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Dunkeswelle, Exoniensis diocesis.

Johannes Aynell, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus Taunton', eiusdem diocesis.

Henricus Bonor, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Newham.

Willelmus Lane, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Collegii Beate Marie de Oterey, eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Ewyn', Exoniensis diocesis, ad titulum Hospitalis sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie.

PRESBITERI.

Johannes Deere, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioris et conuentus prioratus de Wurspryng eiusdem diocesis.

Henricus Durgyn, Exoniensis diocesis, ad titulum prioris et conuentus de Plymton', eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Collys, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioris et conuentus de Bruton'.

Christoforus Palle, Saresburiensis diocesis, ad titulum abbatis et conuentus de Newham.

Thomas Legat, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioris et conuentus de Monte Acuto.

Johannes Howell, canonicus Monasterii Sancti Augustini Bristollie, ad titulum eiusdem.

Nicholaus Say, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste, Bathonie.

Ordines generales celebrati in ecclesia conuentuali Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie, per Reuerendum in Christo Patrem dominum Thomam Tinensem episcopum vice et auctoritate Reuerendi in Christo Patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi die Sabbati qua cantatur officium misse "Sicientes," videlicet, xxiij° die mensis Marcii, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo secundo et translacionis dicti reuerendi Patris anno primo.

ACCOLITI.

Walterus Bater, Exoniensis diocesis.

Johannes Monkelehge, Exoniensis diocesis.

Thomas Baker, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Dompnus Thomas Jacob, Exoniensis diocesis, canonicus regularis de Fristoke, eiusdem, etc.

Willelmus Cliff, Exoniensis diocesis.

SUBDIACONI.

Johannes Woode, Eboracensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus ad titulum domus siue prioratus Sancti Nicholai Ciuitatis Exonie.

Willelmus Lovyn, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum prioratus Sancti Stephani Launceston', Exoniensis diocesis.

Thomas Hammaige, canonicus regularis Sancti Netani, Exoniensis diocesis.

Stephanus Stowell, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus de Burcle alias Sprawlismede, eiusdem diocesis.

Matheus Bolter, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis ad titulum hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie eiusdem diocesis.

Thomas Kytowe, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum prioratus de Launceston', eiusdem diocesis.

Diaconi.

Henricus Spicer, Bangoriensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum monasterii Sancti Jacobi de Staverden, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Johannes Asshewell, Londoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum monasterii de Mochelney, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Nicholaus Garland, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum monasterii de Dunkeswell, Exoniensis diocesis.

Johannes Bake, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum prioratus Sancti Germani eiusdem diocesis.

Hugo Jhones, Bangoriensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum monasterii de Bardesey, eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Wykame, Wigorniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum monasterii de Keynesham, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Willelmus Tanner, Saresburiensis diocesis, ad titulum monasterii de Newham, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc.

Hugo Vesy, vicarius choralis ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis ad titulum stalli sui in eadem.

Simon Everton, vicarius choralis ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis ad titulum stalli sui in eadem.

Stephanus Kyngman, Johannes Legge, canonici regulares de Bruton'.

Willelmus Luxton', Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum domus siue prioratus de Barm', eiusdem diocesis.

Thomas Colman, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum domus siue prioratus Bodminie, eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Symon, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum prioratus de Tywardreth, eiusdem diocesis.

Henricus Bray, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum prioratus de Launceston, eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Fry, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Abbatisse de Canonleghe, eiusdem diocesis.

Walterus Garret, Wigorniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum domus siue hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie.

Johannes Townyng, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum domus siue prioratus de Bruton, eiusdem diocesis.

PRESBITERI.

Ricardus Hervy, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum domus Sancti Johannis Baptiste, ville Bristollie, eiusdem diocesis.

Rogerus Richardes, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum monasterii de Dunkeswell, Exoniensis diocesis.

Dompnus Petrus Londoniensis, monachus Monasterii Montis Acuti, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Johannes Ewyn, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste, Wellie.

Robertus Constable, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Monasterii de Tavenstoke, eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Chapman, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus de Worspryng, eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Pewe, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie.

Willelmus Layne, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Collegii Beate Marie de Oterey, eiusdem diocesis.

Ordines generales celebrati in ecclesia Parochiali Sancti Johannis Baptiste de Axbrigge infra Bathoniensem et Wellensem diocesem per venerabilem patrem dominum Thomam Tinensem episcopum, vice et auctoritate Reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, Sabbati iiij^or^ temporum in Vigilia Sancte Trinitatis, videlicet primo die mensis Junii, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo tercio, et translacionis dicti Reuerendi patris anno secundo.

Accoliti.

Dompnus Johannes Lamberd, monachus de Athelney.
Johannes Gibbes, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.
Ricardus Bromfeld, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.
Johannes Cradocke, Landauensis diocesis, per literas, etc.
Thomas Cokysden, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.
Thomas Sully, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.
Johannes Keene, Saresburiensis diocesis.

Subdiaconi.

Thomas Gelyngham, Landauensis diocesis, per literas sui diocesani sufficienter dimissus, ad titulum Monasterii Beate Marie de Morgan', eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Wise de Westbury Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum domus siue Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bathonie.

Thomas ap Guillym, Landauensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Monasterii Beate Marie de Lanternan, eiusdem diocesis.

Thomas Kewe, Landauensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Monasterii Beate Marie de Morgan', eiusdem diocesis.

Adam Lewys, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum domus sine prioratus de Berlich, eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Webbe, Landauensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie.

Willelmus Bodill, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus de Taunton, eiusdem diocesis.

Dompnus Willelmus Lanston', dompnus Willelmus Powghwell, dompnus Willelmus Kyfte, Monachi Monasterii de Cliva, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Diaconi.

Magister Willelmus Morreys, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, rector ecclesie parochialis de Porloke, eiusdem diocesis, ad titulum ecclesie sue, etc.

Henricus Davy, Bangoriensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum prioris et conuentus de Bethkelert, eiusdem diocesis.

Stephanus Stowell, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus de Burele alias Sprawlismede, eiusdem diocesis.

Matheus Bolter, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie.

Presbyteri.

Willelmus Tanner, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Monasterii de Newham, Exoniensis diocesis.

Hugo Jhones, Bangoriensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Monasterii de Berdesey, eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Townyng, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus de Bruton', eiusdem diocesis.

Henricus Spicer, Bangoriensis diocesis, per literas, etc, ad titulum Monasterii Sancti Jacobi de Stauerdale.

Willelmus Wylkyn', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Cliva, eiusdem diocesis.

Thomas Strange, Wigorniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie.

Johannes Wykham, Wygorniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Monasterii de Keynesham.

Johannes Bonour, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Newham, Saresburiensis diocesis.

Dompnus Thomas Bristowe, Monachus Monasterii Sancti Saluatoris de Athelney, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Walterus Garret, Wigorniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie.

Dominus Henricus Hillerd, canonicus regularis prioratus de Bruton', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Robertus White, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, vicarius choralis ecclesie cathedralis Wellensis, ad titulum stalli sui.

Dompnus Edmundus Reklyfe, dompnus Lodowicus Breknok, Monachi prioratus de Farlegh Monachorum ordinis Cluniacensis Saresburiensis diocesis.

Ordines celebrati in ecclesia conuentuali Beatorum Apostolorum Petri et Pauli de Mochelney infra Bathoniensem et Wellensem diocesem per venerabilem patrem dominum Thomam Tinensem episcopum vice et auctoritate reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, die Sabbati iiij^or^ temporum, videlicet xxj° die mensis Septembris Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo tercio, et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno secundo.

Accoliti.

Dompnus Thomas Broke, monachus Monasterii de Mochelney.

Johannes Wadham, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Willelmus Macy, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Thomas Rodberde, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Willelmus Lynton', Couentrensis et Lichfeldensis diocesis, ad titulum ecclesie sue de Spaxton'.

Subdiaconi.

Willelmus Clyffe, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Collegii Beate Marie de Oterey, eiusdem diocesis.

Thomas Jacob, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum domus de Witham, eiusdem diocesis.

Thomas Thame, Wigorniensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Lacoke, Saresburiensis diocesis.

Dompnus Thomas Wilkyns, monachus Monasterii de Mochelney.

Johannes Burworde, Willelmus Gregory, canonici regulares prioratus de Taunton'.

Johannes Lambert, monachus Monasterii de Athelney.

Thomas Baker, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, rector ecclesie parochialis de Pitney, ad titulum eiusdem ecclesie.

Willelmus Willot, Landauensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Morgon'.

T[homas] Davy, Landauensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Lantarn'.

DIACONI.

Thomas Gelyngham, Landauensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Monasterii de Morgan'.

Adam Lewes, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus de Berlich, eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Webbe, Landauensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie.

Willelmus Bodell, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus de Taunton'.

Johannes Wyse, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum domus Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bathonie.

Hugo Preste, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum monasterii de Mochelney.

Thomas Apguillym, Landauensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum monasterii Beate Marie de Latarnan eiusdem diocesis.

Thomas Keroe, Landauensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum monasterii Beate Marie de Morgon eiusdem diocesis.

PRESBITERI.

Willelmus Rolfe
Willelmus Frooste
Thomas Tanner
Johannes Stoureton
} Canonici regulares monasterii de Keynesham.

Matheus Bolter, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Bristollie.

Henricus Davy, Bangoriensis diocesis, per literas, etc., ad titulum prioris et conuentus de Beth Kelet eiusdem diocesis.

Ordines generales celebrati in ecclesia conuentuali hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie per reuerendum in Christo patrem dominum Thomam Dei gracia Tinensem episcopum vice et auctoritate reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi Dei gracia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi die Sabbati iiij^or^ temporum, videlicet, xxij^do^ die mensis Februarii, Anno Domini millesimo ccc^mo^ nonagesimo tercio et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno ij^do^.

ACCOLITI.

Dompnus Willelmus Newporte } Monachi Glaston'.
Dompnus Johannes Frome }
Willelmus Capron', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.
Johannes Vttermeer, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.
Robertus Chaper, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas etc.
Johannes Mason, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas etc.
Johannis Webbe, Wygorniensis diocesis, per literas etc.

SUBDIACONI.

Jacobus Grenehalgh, Conuentrensis et Lichfeldensis diocesis per literas etc. ad titulum Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie.

Dompnus Johannes Lewys monachus de Witham Cart. (*sic*), Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Johannes Wadham, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum monasterii de Athelney Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Willelmus Birteporte, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum monasterii de Middelton' eiusdem diocesis.

Ricardus Browmefelde, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum monasterii de Cliua, eiusdem diocesis.

Morganus Johan, Landauensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum monasterii Beate Marie de Lanternan eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Yeill, Landauensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum monasterii de Lanternan eiusdem diocesis.

Ricardus Vpton, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum prioratus de Launceston' eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Cradocke, Landauensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum monasterii de Morgan eiusdem diocesis.

Ricardus Lewys, Landauensis diocesis per literas, etc., ad titulum monasterii de Morgan eiusdem diocesis.

Frater Johannes Combe, frater predicator Bristollie, Wygorniensis diocesis.

Johahnes Morton, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum prioratus de Launceston', eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Ap Howell, Landauensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum monasterii de Launternan.

Johannes Jesse, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum monasterii de Dunkeswell eiusdem diocesis.

DIACONI.

Dompnus Ricardus Wynterbourne } Monachi Glaston'.
Dompnus Nicholaus Wedmoure }

Dompnus Willelmus Powghwylle } Monachi de Cliua.
Dompnus Willelmus Kyste }

Alexander Hody, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum collegii Omnium Animarum Oxonie.

Willelmus Lynton', Conuentrensis et Lichfeldensis diocesis, per literas etc., rector ecclesie parochialis de Spaxton, ad titulum ecclesie sue.

Thomas Baker, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, rector ecclesie parochialis de Pytney, ad titulum ecclesie sue.

PRESBITERI.

Adam Lewys, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus de Berliche, eiusdem diocesis.

Thomas Davy, Landauensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum monasterii de Lanternan, eiusdem diocesis.

Willelmus Willot, Landauensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum monasterii de Morgan' eiusdem diocesis.

Stephanus Stowell, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus de Bircle, eiusdem diocesis.

Nicholaus Garland, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis ad titulum monasterii de Dunkeswell Exoniensis diocesis.

Johannes Webbe, Landauensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum domus siue hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie.

Willelmus Philip, Landauensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum monasterii Beate Marie de Neyth' eiusdem diocesis.

Willelmus Clyff, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum collegii Beate Marie de Oterey eiusdem diocesis.

Ordines generales celebrati in ecclesia conuentuali Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie, per venerabilem in Christo patrem dominum Thomam Tinensem episcopum vice et auctoritate reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi Dei gracia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, Sabbato Sancto in Vigilia Pasche, videlicet, xxix° die mensis Marcii, Anno Domini m^lo^ cccc^mo^ nonagesimo iiij^to^, et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris, anno ij^do^.

Accoliti.

Willelmus Greyner, frater hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie.

David Long, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas etc.

Subdiaconi.

Ricardus Beram, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus Taunton' etc.

Willelmus Kent, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum prioratus monasterii de Ferleigh eiusdem diocesis.

Dompnus Willelmus Newport }
Dompnus Johannis Frome } Monachi Glaston'.

Diaconi.

Willelmus Capron', Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, vicarius choralis ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ad titulum eiusdem.

Johannes Morgan, Landauensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum prioris et conuentus monasterii de Osney, Lincolniensis diocesis.

Johannes Webbe, Wigorniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum prioris et conuentus Bathonie, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Ricardus Trevethike, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum domus de Trewardeth eiusdem diocesis.

PRESBITERI.

Magister Jacobus Grenehalgh, Couentrensis et Lichfeldensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie.

Johannes Wadham, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum monasterii de Athelney, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Ricardus Bromefeld, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum monasterii de Cliua eiusdem diocesis.

Ricardus Lewes, Landauensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum monasterii de Morgan' eiusdem diocesis.

Andreas Pyke, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum prioris et conventus de Launceston eiusdem diocesis.

Frater Johannes Chitley, ordinis Carmelitarum Sutton' alias Plummowth.

Dompnus Willelmus Axbrigge
Dompnus Ricardus Wynterbourne } Monachi Glaston'.
Dompnus Nicholaus Wedmoure

Ordines generales celebrati in ecclesia Conuentuali Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie per reuerendum patrem dominum Thomam Tinensem episcopum vice et auctoritate reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi die Sabbati iiij^{or} temporum, videlicet, xx^{o} die mensis Septembris, Anno Domini millesimo ccc^{mo} nonagesimo iiij^{to} et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno iij^{o}.

ACCOLITI.

Johannes Rode
Johannes Willy
Johannes Chyke
Johannes Cokston
Johannes Parker
Ricardus Compton
Johannes Davy
Johannes Aynesty
} Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Dompnus Robertus Clerk, monachus Glaston'.

Frater Johannes Parak de Bristollia, ordinis Sancti Francisci.

SUBDIACONI.

Frater Ricardus Vowell, canonicus regularis ordinis Sancti Augustini de Bruton'.

Frater Johannes Jamys, canonicus etc., Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Dompnus Johannes Chamberlayn' monachus Canturiensis (*sic*) de Henton.

Frater Thomas Stalworth,
Frater Willelmus Hall,
} Fratres domus Sancti Marci de Gauntes de Bristollia.

Thomas Rodberd, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii Cluniacensis eiusdem diocesis.

Frater Johannes Coy, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, canonicus regularis ordinis Sancti Augustini de Berlich.

Dauid Thomas, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum prioratus Sancti Germani ordinis Sancti Augustini, eiusdem diocesis.

Dauid ap Johan, Meneuensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum prioratus de Clifford Herfordensis diocesis.

Willelmus Hoper, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum Mouasterii de Keynesham eiusdem diocesis.

Dompnus Thomas Broke, monachus de Mochelney Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis.

Frater Willelmus Tetnayle, ordinis Sancti Francisci de Bruggewater.

Frater Ricardus Hernscot
Frater Willelmus Padok
Frater Willelmus Greyner
} Fratres domus siue Hospitalis Sancti Johannis Baptiste Wellie.

Dompnus Thomas Bougent, monachus Claston'.

Diaconi.

Frater Willelmus Decumayn, ordinis Sancti Francisci Exonie.

Dompnus Johannes Auscoll
Dompnus Johannes Pyke
} Monachi domus et ecclesie Sancti Andree de Tywardeth Exoniensis diocesis.

Frater Johannes Simon, canonicus regularis domus siue prioratus de Bodmyn, Exoniensis diocesis.

Ricardus Beram, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus de Taunton' eiusdem diocesis.

Alexander Bosgrove, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Staverdale, eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Vphill, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum prioratus de Taunton'.

Dompnus Johannes Lewys, monachus Carturiensis (*sic*) de Witham.

Ricardus Fortescu, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc. ad titulum Monasterii de Tavystoke, eiusdem diocesis.

Dompnus Johannes Lamberd, monachus de Athelney.

Robertus Wolfe, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum prioratus de Launceston eiusdem diocesis.

Dompnus Thomas Wilkyns, monachus de Mochelney.

Frater Lambertus Brynk, ordinis Sancti Francisci de Briggewater.

Dompnus Willemus Newport } Monachi Glaston'.
Dompnus Johannes Frome }

PRESBITERI.

Frater Thomas Hamant, canonicus regularis de Hertlond, Exoniensis diocesis.

Willelmus Kent, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum Monasterii de Ferleigh eiusdem diocesis.

Willelmus Birtport, Saresburiensis diocesis, per literas etc. ad titulum Monasterii de Midelton eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Aphowell, Landauensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum Monasterii de Lanterneham eiusdem diocesis.

Thomas Wyther Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ad titulum Monasterii de Staverdalle.

Johannes Sergent, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum Monasterii de Tavystok eiusdem diocesis.

Ricardus Vpton' Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum prioris de Launceston eiusdem diocesis.

Johannes Arnold, Meneuensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum prioratus Sancti Thome Martiris eiusdem diocesis.

Johannis Morton', Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum prioris de Launciston' eiusdem diocesis.

Simon Benet, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum Monasterii de Bukfaster eiusdem diocesis.

Dompnus Willelmus Cory, monachus de Athelney.

Frater Johannes Eckey, ordinis Sancti Francisci de Bruggewater.

Frater Johannes Combe, ordinis Predicatorum de Bristollia.

Robertus Philipp', Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum Monasterii de Launceston, eiusdem diocesis.

Ricardus Trevethyk, Exoniensis diocesis, per literas etc., ad titulum domus de Trewardeth, eiusdem diocesis.

Registrum Eleccionum tempore Reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi Dei gracia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi contingencium.

Decretum eleccionis Prioris de Berliche.

Reuerendo in Christo patri et domino domino Ricardo Dei gratia Bathoniensi et Wellensi episcopo, vestrove vicario in spiritualibus generali, vestri humiles et deuoti oratores, Johannes Hamelyn', Ricardus Brigge et Thomas Mathewe, ecclesie conuentualis ac prioratus de Berlich' ordinis Sancti Augustini, vestre diocesis, fratres et canonici, omnimodas reuerenciam et obedienciam tanto patri debitas cum honore. Vacante iam pridem prioratu nostro predicto per priuacionem domini Roberti Wynde vltimi et inmediati prioris eiusdem, ne idem prioratus noster per suam diutinam vacacionem et viduitatem in spiritualibus et temporalibus grauia paciatur incommoda, Johannes Hamelyn canonicus et confrater

noster, ac nos Ricardus Brigge et Thomas Mathewe canonici et confratres suprascripti, in ordine sacerdotali constituti, prefatum ordinem Sancti Augustini in ipso prioratu expresse professi, die Martis, videlicet tercio die mensis Septembris, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo secundo, Indiccione xj^a^, pontificatus Sanctissimi in Christo patris et domini nostri domini Alexandri diuina prouidencia ~~pape~~ (*sic*) sexti, anno primo, missa de Sancto Spiritu ad Summum Altare prefate ecclesie conuentualis nostre solenniter celebrata ipsaque finita, ac campana, ut moris est, ad capitulum congregandum, pulsata, ad eleccionem futuri prioris eiusdem prioratus fauente Domino celebrandum domum nostram capitularem dicti prioratus adiuimus et intrauimus, prenominatoque confratre nostro Johanne Hamelyn et nobis Ricardo Brigge et Thoma Mathewe, cum ad tunc non fuerint neque sint plures confratres et canonici ipsius prioratus, saltem ius aut voces in huiusmodi eleccionis negocio habentes, capitulariter tunc ibidem congregatis ac conuentum et capitulum illius prioratus facientibus, Verbo Dei per discretum virum Robertum Williamson, presbiterum, nobis et ceteris adtunc presentibus proposito, ministrato et predicato, ac Spiritus Sancti gracia per cantacionem ympni "Veni Creator Spiritus," humiliter inuocata, nominibusque et cognominibus nostris publice lectis, nos Johannes Hamelyn, Ricardus Brigge, et Thomas Mathewe, canonici et confratres supramemorati prioratus, venerabilem virum Magistrum Ricardum Nykke, utriusque iuris doctorem, vestrumque, reuerende pater, vicarium in spiritualibus generalem, in directorem et consiliarium, Robertum Williamson auctoritate apostolica notarium publicum in scribam, et ad scribendum huiusmodi eleccionis acta, necnon dominos Johannem Brodrybbe rectorem de Skilgate et Johannem Edyngton vicarium de Duluerton in testes dicti eleccionis negocii et agendorum in eodem tunc ibidem personaliter nobiscum presentes nominauimus,

elegimus et assumpsimus, ac eos nobiscum rogamus et fecimus ibidem remanere. Quibus sic factis prefatus Johannes Hamelyn canonicus et confrater antedictus de voluntate, assensu et consensu nostrum, Ricardi Brigge et Thome Mathewe, expressis, quasdam monicionem et protestacionem in scriptis redactam fecit et legit, monuitque et protestatus est sub forma verborum que sequitur :— In Dei nomine, amen. Ego Johannes Hamelyn canonicus huius prioratus ac presidens capituli eiusdem, vice mea ac vice nomine et mandato confratrum meorum hic presencium, moneo omnes et singulos excommunicatos suspensos et interdictos, aliosque quoscunque si qui forsan inter nos sint, qui de iure seu consuetudine in presenti eleccionis negocio interesse non debeant, vel non debent, quod ab hoc domo capitulari statim recedant, me et alios de presenti capitulo siue conuentu, ad quos ius et potestas eligendi pertinet, eligere libere permittentes, protestans quod non est mea vel confratrum meorum predictorum seu alterius eorundem voluntas aut intencio tales admittere tanquam ius et voces in eleccione huiusmodi habentes, aut procedere seu eligere cum eisdem, immo volumus quod voces talium si que tales postmodum interesse reperiantur nulli prestent suffragium aut afferant alicui nocumentum, sed pro non receptis seu pro non habitis penitus habeantur. Quibus monicione et protestacione sic lectis et factis, prenominatus Magister Ricardus Nykke constitucionem consilii generalis que incipit "Quia propter" in huiusmodi actis pro informacione et instruccione eligenciun legi solitam publice legit ac formas eleccionum in eadem contentas satis euidenter exposuit et declarauit. Post cuiusquidem constitucionis lecturam exposicionem et declaracionem habitam et factam, statim et incontinenti ac subito et repente nullo tractatu aut communicacione inter nos ad tunc prehabita seu interueniente, de aliqua persona eligenda, Spiritus Sancti gracia vti firmiter credimus inspirati, nos Johannes Hamelyne, Ricardus

Brugge (*sic*) et Thomas Mathewe canonici et confratres supranominati, dominum Thomam Birde, canonicum et confratrem prioratus de Taunton' ordinem Sancti Augustini in prioratu predicto expresse professum, virum vtique liberum, prouidum et discretum, de legitimo matrimonio procreatum, in etate legitima et ordine sacerdotali constitutum, vitaque moribus ac literarum sciencia imbutum, in spiritualibus et temporalibus plurimum circumspectum, scientem et valentem iura prioratus nostri antedicti vt speramus defendere pariter et tueri, in nostrum et dicti prioratus priorem vnanimiter et concorditer ac vna voce et vno spiritu nominauimus elegimus et assumpsimus tunc ibidem; ac consequenter adstatim nos Johannes Hamelyne, Ricardus Brigge et Thomas Mathewe canonici suprascripti, vna cum aliis nobis ad tunc vocatis, psalmum "Te Deum laudamus" solenniter decantantes et decantari facientes, ipsum Thomam Birde sic vt prefertur electum, ego Johannes Hamelyne Canonicus et confrater antedictus de voluntate, mandato, assensu et consensu expressis dictorum Ricardi Brigge et Thome Mathewe, confratrum meorum predictorum, huiusmodi eleccionem modo, more et forma premissis factam et celebratam, clero et populo in memorata ecclesia conuentuali in multitudine congregatis in vulgari meo mox publicaui, tunc ibidem. Deinde post premissa modo et forma prescriptis gesta et peracta, nobis Johanne Hamelyne, Ricardo Brigge et Thoma Mathewe ad et in domum capitularem nostram antedictam, vna cum prefatis directore notario et testibus redeuntibus et ibidem capitulariter congregatis, capitulumque et conuentum facientibus, ego Johannes Hamelyne canonicus et confrater antedictus de assensu et consensu expressis dictorum Ricardi Brigge et Thome Mathewe canonicorum et confratrum meorum eundem Ricardum Brigge ordinaui feci et constitui meum verum et legitimum procuratorem, dedique et concessi eidem procuratori meo potestatem generalem et mandatum

speciale pro me et nomine meo ac sui ipsius nomine huiusmodi eleccionem sic vt premittitur factam et celebratam eidem Thome Birde electo intimandi et notificandi, ipsumque Thomam Birde vti dicte eleccioni de se facte suos prebeat assensum et consensum atque eidem eleccioni realiter consenciat rogandi et requirendi, necnon huiusmodi suum consensum nomine meo et suis petendi et obtinendi; consequenterque eodem tercio die Septembris prefatus Ricardus Brigge procurator, vt prefertur, constitutus, ac procuracionis huiusmodi onus in se assumens, ad prescriptum Thomam Birde electum in quadam alta camera iuxta capellam Beate Marie prioratus sepedicti situata, personaliter existentem, circa horam decimam eiusdem diei vna cum notario et testibus premissis personaliter accessit, ac ipsum Thomam Birde electum in presencia dicti notarii et testium vt huiusmodi eleccioni de se facte et celebrate consentiret, instanter requisiuit et rogauit. Cui quidem Ricardo Brigge, prefatum electum sic requirenti et roganti, ipse respondit quod non erat tunc prouisus quid in tam ardua re duceret faciendum, asserens se velle in ea parte ad tempus deliberare ad dandum ei finale responsum. Deinde circa horam vndecimam eiusdem diei idem Ricardus Brigge procurator nomine procuratorio quo supra ac sui ipsius nomine vna cum notario et testibus suprascriptis ad eandem Thomam Birde electum in dicta camera existentem, iterum personaliter accessit, ac ipsum electum modo et forma quibus supra in presencia dicti notarii et testium requisiuit et rogauit, quatenus eleccioni huiusmodi de se facte et celebrate sine vlteriori dilacione consentiret, suosque preberet assensum pariter et consensum. Vnde dictus Thomas Birde electus sic ut premittitur requisitus et rogatus, eleccioni huiusmodi consensit et consensum prebuit in scriptis sub eo qui sequitur tenore verborum:—In Dei nomine, amen. Ego Thomas Birde canonicus et confrater prioratus de Taunton, ordinis Sancti Augustini, Batho-

niensis et Wellensis diocesis, dictum ordinem Sancti Augustini in eodem prioratu expresse professus, in priorem prioratus Sancti Nicholai de Berliche canonice electus, sepius et instanter ad consenciendum eleccioni de me facte et celebrate requisitus, in honore Sancte et indiuidue Trinitatis ac gloriose Virginis Marie necnon Beati Nicholai, in quorum honore fundatur prioratus antedictus, eleccioni de me facte et celebrate consencio et consensum meum prebeo in hiis scriptis. Que omnia et singula paternitati vestre reuerende vestroue vicario huiusmodi generali presencium tenore intimamus et notificamus, humiliter supplicantes et deuote quatenus hoc decretum eleccionis nostre sigillo nostro communi sigillatum ac signo et subscripcione notarii publici infrascripti consignatum acceptantes, dictam eleccionem et memorati electi nostri personam auctoritate vestra ordinaria et pontificali approbare et confirmare, ceteraque vestro officio huiusmodi in hac parte incumbencia peragere dignemini graciose cum fauore intuitu caritatis, vt Deo auctore dictus electus nobis et prioratui nostro antedicto velut pastor idoneus preesse valeat utiliter et prodesse, nosque sub illius regimine possimus omnipotenti Deo salubriter militare. Acta fuerunt hec omnia et singula prout supra scribuntur et recitantur sub anno Domini, Indiccione, pontificatu mensi die et locis suprascriptis, presentibus tunc ibidem nobiscum notario et testibus supranominatis, ad premissa per nos rogatis et specialiter requisitis.

Supplicacio siue peticio pro consensu Prioris de Taunton'.

Venerabili ac circumspecto viro dompno Johanni Prowse, priori prioratus de Taunton', salutem in omnium Saluatore. Cum nuper domus siue prioratus Sancti Nicholai de Berliche, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, per liberam resignacionem domini

Roberti Wynde vltimi prioris eiusdem, fuerit et est paterno solacio destitutus, nos igitur dompni Johannes Hamelyne supprior, Ricardus Brigge et Thomas Mathewe canonici et confratres domus siue prioratus de Berliche predicta, vnanimi consensu considerantes ne domus siue prioratus predictus diutina vacacione deploret incommoda, eligimus in nouum gubernatorem et priorem tercio die mensis Septembris Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo ij^do^ dompnum Thomam Birde canonicum et confratrem vestri prioratus de Taunton' predicta. Qua propter nos predicti Johannes Hamelyne, Ricardus Brigge, et Thomas Mathewe, petimus ac humiliter rogamus vt predicto dompno Thome vestram licenciam pariter et consensum huiusmodi eleccioni nostre de se facte prebeatis. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum commune presentibus apposuimus. Datum iij die mensis Septembris, anno Domini supradicto. Datum quoad sigilli nostri communis antedicti appensionem in domo nostra capitulari premissa, iiij^to^ die prescripti mensis Septembris, Anno Domini suprascripto.

Subscriptio Notarii.

Et ego Robertus Williamson clericus Eboracensis diocesis publicus auctoritate apostolica notarius, scriba in dicto eleccionis negocio et agendorum in eodem assumptus, premissis omnibus et singulis dum sicut premittitur in dicto iij^o^ die Septembris anno Domini, indiccione, pontificatu, mense Septembris, die et locis superius descriptis agebantur et fiebant, vna cum prenominatis testibus presens personaliter interfui, eaque omnia et singula sic fieri vidi et audiui, presensque decretum manu mea propria scriptum publicaui et in hanc publicam formam redegi. Signoque et nomine meis solitis et consuetis, vna cum appensione sigilli communis prioratus antedicti, signaui rogatus et requisitus in fidem et testimonium omnium premissorum.

Sentencia Confirmacionis.

Ricardus Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctor, canonicus ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis, ac reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, ipso reuerendo patre extra suam diocesem in remotis agente, vicarius in spiritualibus generalis, venerabili et religioso viro Thome Birde canonico et confratri prioratus Taunton' ordinis Sancti Augustini, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, electo in priorem prioratus de Berliche, eiusdem diocesis salutem in Auctore salutis. Examinata per nos nuper et discussa eleccione de persona vestra in dicto prioratu facta et celebrata, ipsiusque processu et decreto plenius rimatis ac deliberate recensitis. Quia concurrentibus et obseruatis omnibus et singulis in hac parte de iure requisitis, dictam eleccionem canonicam ac de persona vestra habili et idonea rite et legitime celebratam fuisse et esse inuenimus, eandem ideirco eleccionem et personam vestram auctoritate officii nostri huiusmodi duximus confirmandam et confirmauimus. Ac vos in priorem eiusdem prefecimus, necnon regimen et administracionem spiritualium et temporalium ipsius prioratus cum pertinenciis suis vniuersis persone vestre commisimus, iuribus et consuetudinibus dicti reuerendi patris episcopalibus ecclesiarumque suarum Cathedralium Bathoniensis et Wellensis dignitate in omnibus semper saluis. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum officii nostri huiusmodi presentibus apponi fecimus. Datum vj^to^ die mensis Septembris Anno Domini supradicto, et translacionis dicti reuerendi patris anno j^o^.

Iuramentum canonice obediencie.

In Dei nomine, amen. Ego Thomas Birde, canonicus et confrater prioratus Taunton', ordinis Sancti Augustini, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, in dicto prioratu expresse professus, ac in

priorem prioratus de Berliche electus et confirmatus, omnem et omnimodam subieccionem et obedienciam iuxta canonum et sanctorum patrum instituta in hac parte debitas, reuerendo in Christo patri et domino domino Ricardo Dei gracia Bathoniensi et Wellensi episcopo suisque successoribus Bathoniensis et Wellensis ecclesiarum episcopis canonice intrantibus, necnon eorum officiariis in licitis et canonicis mandatis quibuscunque perpetuo me fideliter exhibiturum, iuraque ordinaciones et consuetudines dicti prioratus obseruaturum et obseruari facturum iuxta posse meum promitto. Sic me Deus adiuuet et hec Sancta Dei euuangelia. In quorum fidem et testimonium propria manu mea hic subscribo. Et fecit signum crucis in hunc modum. +

Litera intendencie.

Ricardus Nykke, etc., vt supra, religiosis viris suppriori et conuentui prioratus de Berliche ordinis Sancti Augustini Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, salutem in Auctore salutis. Cum nos eleccionem nuper in prioratu predicto de fratre Thoma iam pridem canonico et confratre prioratus Taunton' ordinis et diocesis antedictorum, in priorem eiusdem prioratus de Berliche electo factam canonicam fuisse et esse iudicialiter decreuerimus, eamque confirmauerimus, necnon administracionem spiritualium et temporalium prioratus huiusmodi prefato Thome Birde electo et confirmato commiserimus auctoritate et vigore officii nostri memorati, iusticia id poscente. Vobis igitur et cuilibet vestrum in virtute obediencie precipimus et mandamus quatenus eidem Thome Birde, vt prefertur, electo et confirmato, obedienciam faciatis, ac sic quilibet vestrum faciat; necnon eidem vti priori vestro in omnibus licitis et canonicis mandatis intendatis et pareatis sicut decet, ac sic quilibet vestrum intendat, et pareat cum effectu. Datum die et anno supradictis, etc.

Et ego Robertus Williamson clericus Eboracensis diocesis sacra auctoritate apostolica notarius publicus, premissis Fratris Thome Birde eleccionis approbacioni et eiusdem confirmacioni ceterisque premissis omnibus et singulis dum sicut premittitur sub anno Domini predicto, Indiccione x^a^, pontificatus sanctissimi in Christo patris et domini nostri domini Alexandri diuina prouidencia Pape sexti anno primo, mensis et loco predictis, vna cum prenominatis testibus presens personaliter interfui, eaque omnia et singula sic fieri vidi et audiui. Ideo hoc presens publicum instrumentum me aliunde prepedito, per alium scriptum exinde confeci publicaui et in hanc publicam formam redegi, signo et nomine meis solitis et consuetis, de mandato dicti vicarii generalis signaui, in fidem et testimonium omnium et singulorum premissorum.

Litera testimonialis super confirmacione.

Vniuersis Sancte Matris ecclesie filiis presentes literas testimoniales inspecturis, visuris et audituris, Ricardus Nykke, etc., ut supra, salutem in Eo qui est omnium vera salus. Ad vniuersitatis vestre noticiam deducimus et deduci volumus per presentes, quod nos Ricardus antedictus sexto die mensis Septembris Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo^ nonagesimo ij^do^ rite et legitime procedens, ac seruatis per nos de iure in hac parte seruandis, ad confirmacionem eleccionis de domino Thoma Birde nuper canonico et confratre domus siue prioratus de Taunton' ordinis Sancti Augustini Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, et in eodem prioratu expresse professo, in priorem domus siue prioratus de Berlich ordinis et diocesis predictorum, ipso eodem prioratu per priuacionem domini Roberti Wynde vltimi et immediati prioris eiusdem vacante ac prioris solacio destituto, canonice electo facte et celebrate, per sentenciam nostram diffinitiuam in scriptis latam processimus sub eo qui sequitur tenore verborum:—In Dei nomine. Amen. Examinata

per nos nuper et discussa eleccione, etc., ut supra. In quorum omnium et singulorum fidem et testimonium has literas nostras testimoniales sigillo officii nostri ac signo et subscripcione probi viri Magistri Roberti Williamson notarii publici, scribe in hac parte assumpti, communiri fecimus. Datum die mense anno et loco supra scriptis, presentibus tunc ibidem dominis Johanne Edyngton', vicario vicarie perpetue ecclesie parochialis de Duluerton, et Johanne Brodrybbe rectore ecclesie parochialis de Skilgate, testibus ad premissa vocatis personaliter rogatis et requisitis.

Prouisio siue prefeccio Abbatis Glaston'.

Ricardus permissione diuina Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus dilecto in Christo filio fratri Ricardo Beere, monacho monasterii Beate Marie Glaston', ordinis Sancti Benedicti, nostre Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, ordinem Sancti Benedicti in eodem monasterio expresse professo, salutem graciam et benedicciionem. Cum vacante iam dudum dicto monasterio Beate Marie Glaston', nostre diocesis, per mortem bone memorie fratris Johannis Selwode, vltimi abbatis et pastoris eiusdem ipsiusque corpore ecclesiastice tradito sepulture, ius et auctoritas eidem monasterio sic vacanti prouidendi, pretextu nullitatis necnon cassacionis et annullacionis eleccionis de persona fratris Thome Wasyn, regia primitus licencia petita et obtenta, nuper de facto facte et celebrate, ad nos Ricardum Episcopum antedictum iure nobis hac vice deuoluto pertineat et deuoluatur. Nos propterea Ricardus Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus antedictus, periculis que ex diutinis vacacionibus prouenire solent ecclesiis viduatis obuiare, et prefati monasterii Beate Marie Glaston' quod primum et precipuum esse dinoscitur inter omnia monasteria et loca religiosa nostre diocesis, indempnitati prouidere volentes, eidem monasterio de futuro abbate, iure nobis hac vice, vt prefertur, pro-

uidendi legitime deuoluto, matura prehabita deliberacione, et solum Deum dictique monasterii et personarum in eo sub religionis iugo Altissimo famulancium statum et vtilitatem oculis nostris preponentes, te fratrem Ricardum Beere, monachum et confratrem dicti monasterii, ordinem Sancti Benedicti in eodem expresse professum, morum grauitate et scientia preditum, in ordine sacerdotali etateque sufficienti et legitima constitutum, deque et ex ligitimo matrimonio procreatum, in spiritualibus et temporalibus plurimum circumspectum, potentem et valentem iura et libertates eiusdem monasterii tueri et defendere, in abbatem et pastorem dicti monasterii nominauimus et preficimus, et eidem monasterio ac personis eiusdem iure nobis vt premittitur hac vice devoluto, auctoritate nostra ordinaria de te et persona tua prouidemus; curam, regimen et administracionem omnium et singulorum spiritualium et temporalium dicti monasterii tibi in Domino committentes, et committimus, iuribus nostris episcopalibus ecclesiarumque nostrarum Cathedralium Bathoniensis et Wellensis dignitate in omnibus semper saluis. In cuius rei testimonium sigillum nostrum fecimus hiis apponi. Datum sub sigillo nostro xij° die mensis Nouembris Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo nonagesimo tercio, et nostre translacionis anno ij^do.

Iuramentum canonice obediencie.

In Dei nomine, amen. Ego Ricardus Beere, Monasterii Beate Marie Glaston', ordinis Sancti Benedicti, Bathoniensis et Wellensis diocesis, monachus et confrater, expresse professus in eodem, in Abbatem dicti Monasterii ligitime nominatus, prefectus, ac auctoritate ordinaria pontificali et diocesana reuerendi in Christo patris et domini domini Ricardi Dei gracia Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopi, rite et ligitime confirmatus, iustitutus ac more antecessorum meorum benedictus, omnem et omnimodam subieccionem, reuer-

enciamque et obedienciam iuxta sacras canones sanctorumque patrum constituciones seu decreta aut alias qualitercunque rite et canonice debitas seu consuetas, dicto reuerendo in Christo patri et domino, suis successoribus Bathoniensis et Wellensis ecclesiarum episcopis canonice intrantibus, atque eorum officiariis et ministris quibuscunque perpetuo me fideliter exhibiturum promitto, eroque ab hac hora in antea dicto reuerendo patri et successoribus suis huiusmodi deuotus fidelis et obediens, in omnibus et singulis mandatis licitis et canonicis. Sic me Deus adiuuet et hec Sancta Dei euuangelia. In quorum omnium fidem et testimonium propria manu hic subscribo faciens + Ricardus Bere. Lectum fuit presens iuramentum per eundem dompnum Ricardum Bere in ecclesia parochiali Sancti Aldelmi de Dultyng xix° die mensis Januarii, Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo nonagesimo iij°. Presentibus tunc ibidem venerabilibus viris, priore ecclesie Cathedralis Bathoniensis, dompno Johanne Wynscombe Monacho Glaston', necnon Magistris J. Soper, Johanne Spekyngton', et multis aliis.

Mandatum ad inducendum et installandum.

Ricardus, etc., vt supra, dilecto in Christo filio Archidiacono Wellensi seu eius officiali salutem, graciam et benediccionem. Cum nos, vacante iam dudum dicto Monasterio Beate Marie Glaston' per mortem bone memorie domini Johannis Selwode vltimi abbatis et pastoris eiusdem, ipsiusque corpore ecclesiastice tradito sepulture, ius et auctoritas eidem monasterio sic vacanti prouidendi, [pretextu] nullitatis necnon cassacionis et anullacionis eleccionis de persona patris Thome Wasyn, regia primitus licencia petita et obtenta, nuper de facto facte et celebrate, ad nos Ricardum episcopum antedictum iure nobis hac vice deuoluto pertineat et deuoluatur. Nos propterea, Ricardus Bathoniensis et Wellensis episcopus antedictus, periculis que ex diutinis vacacionibus pro-

uenire solent ecclesiis viduatis obuiare, et prefati Monasterii Beate Marie Glaston', quod primum et precipuum esse dinoscitur inter omnia monasteria et loca religiosa nostre diocesis, indempnitati prouidere volentes, eidem monasterio de futuro abbate, iure nobis hac vice, vt prefertur, prouidendi legitime deuoluto, matura prehabita deliberacione et solum Deum dictique Monasterii et personarum in eo sub religionis iugo Altissimo famulancium statum et vtilitatem oculis nostris preponentes, dompnum Ricardum Bere monachum et confratrem dicti monasterii ordinem Sancti Benedicti in eodem expresse professum, morum grauitate et scientia preditum, in ordine sacerdotali etateque sufficienti, et legitima constitutum, deque et ex ligitimo matrimonio procreatum, in spiritualibus et temporalibus plurimum circumspectum, potentem et valentem iura et libertates eiusdem Monasterii tueri et defendere, in abbatem et pastorem dicti monasterii nominauerimus et preficerimus, et eidem monasterio ac personis eiusdem iure nobis vt premittitur hac vice deuoluto, auctoritate nostra ordinaria de se et persona sua prouiderimus, curam regimen et administracionem omnium et singulorum spiritualibus et temporalium dicti Monasterii sibi in Domino committentes, iuribus et consuetudinibus nostris episcopalibus ecclesiarumque nostrarum Cathedralium Bathoniensis et Wellensis dignitate in omnibus semper saluis. Vobis igitur committimus et mandamus firmiter iniungentes quatenus prefatum dompnum Ricardum Bere sic vt prefertur nominatum prefectum et institutum in realem et corporalem possessionem dicti monasterii iuriumque et pertinenciorum suorum vniuersorum inducatis ac ibidem installetis, inducive et installari faciatis iuxta morem solitum hactenus ibi vsitatum, ac sic inductum et installatum defendatis. Necnon cetera alia vestro in hac parte officio incumbencia peragatis. Et quid feceritis in premissis, nos cum per partem dicti fratris Ricardi Beere fueritis

debite requisiti, autentice certificetis literis vestris patentibus habentibus hunc tenorem. Datum sub sigillo nostro xij° die mensis Nouembris Anno Domini millesimo cccc^mo nonagesimo tercio et nostre translacionis anno ii^do.

Installatus fuit predictus dompnus Ricardus Beere in ecclesia Beate Marie Glaston', per venerabilem virum Magistrum Ricardum Nykke, vtriusque iuris doctorem, officialem domini Archidiaconi Wellensis, xx^mo die mensis Januarii, Anno Domini supradicto, cunctis fratribus sibi promittentibus obedienciam, etc.

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27